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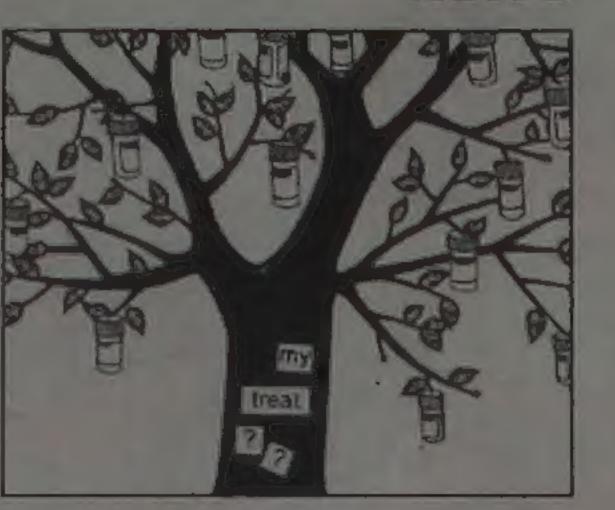
THE BACK 60

ON THE COVER



RIVER VALLEY ALIANCE / 6

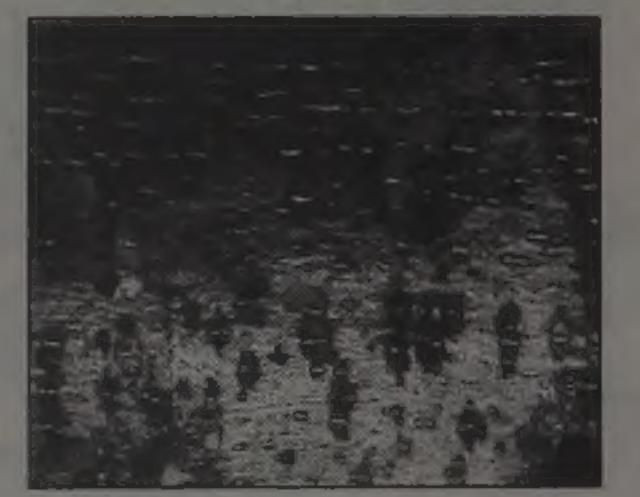
"There's a shifting paradigm in parks. It used to be like a zoo get one of everything and put a fence around it-but that's changing to a focus on creating natural macro-corridors. If we do that here, there's an opportunity to make our River Valley an international asset." - Charlie Richmond, Urban Issues Leader for Sierra Club's Prairie Chapter



HUNTER'S SYNDROME UPDATE / 5

"I felt every emotion you could go through while they were receiving the drug. I was excited, anxious---when they started the infusions I was bawling." -Nicole Miranda, mother of three boys with the disease

VISUAL ARTS



A TRACE OF PASSAGE / 34

"The whole show was made in the last three months. It's an accumulation of all my mistakes, really." -Kyla Fischer, MFA grad

MUSIC



BOB WISEMAN / 47

"So it really shocked me at those shows how many people didn't know his canon. It's completely ludicrous to me that 'Blowin' In the Wind' or 'Rainy Day Women' or something is the only thing about Dylan that people who are going to his concerts know." --- Bob Wiseman, obscure musician

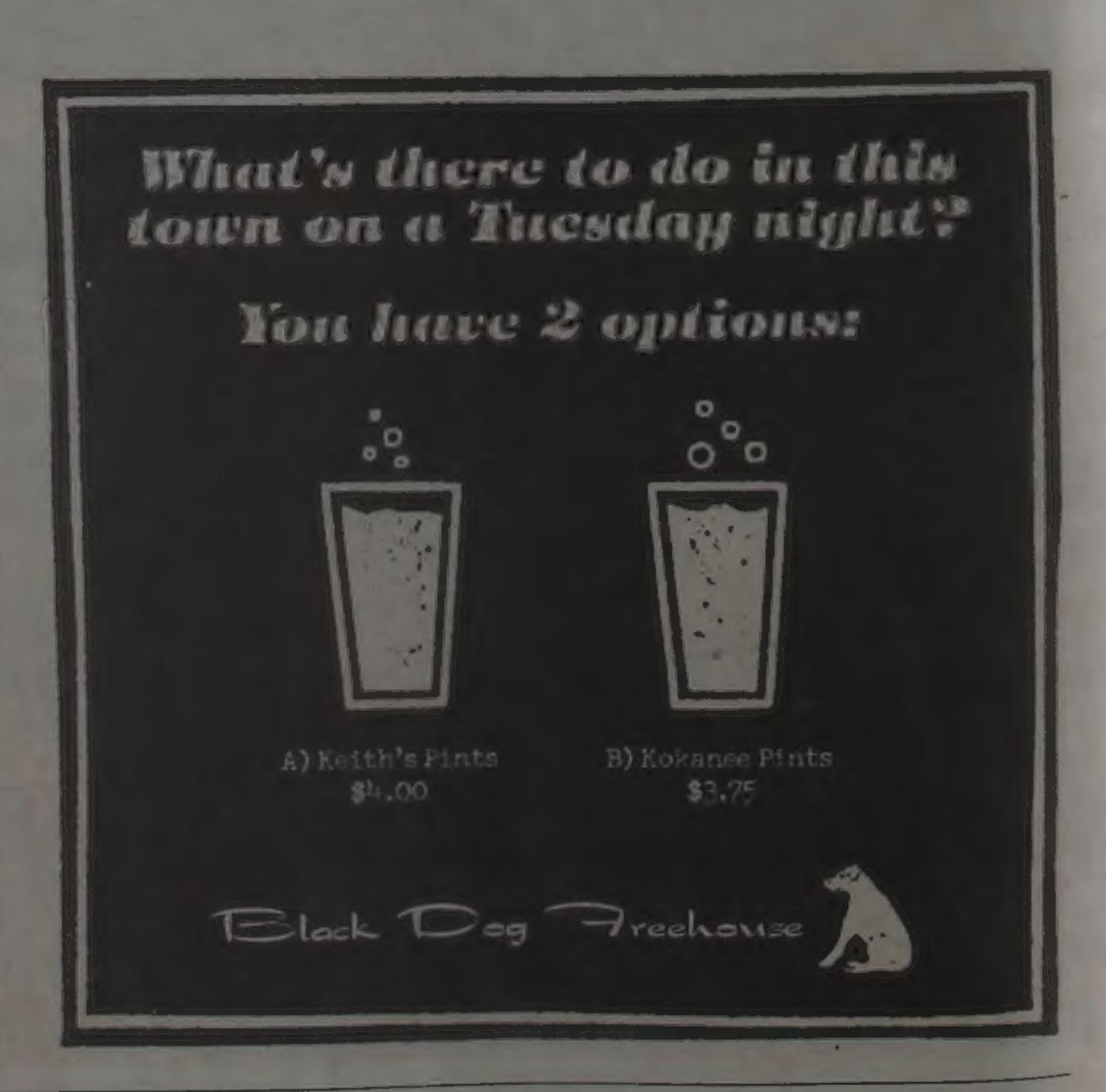
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The next Harry Strom?

ROSS MOROZ / ross@yeeweekly.com

uring his so-far brief stint as Premier, Ed Stelmach has accumulated a couple of nicknames-"Honest Ed," "Steady Eddie"-that speak to his personal integrity and inobtrusive demeanour. Depending on how the next few months of Alberta politics play out, however, he might end up with a far less flattering appellation: "Harry Strom."

Strom became Premier of Alberta after taking over leadership of the governing Social Credit party following the retirement of Premier Ernest Manning in 1968. Under Manning and his predecessor, William "Bible Bill" Aberhart, the Socreds had run Alberta since 1935, forming nine consecutive majority govemments while consistently earning more than half of the popular vote.

But under Strom, things began to fall apart. The Progressive Conservatives had emerged from obscurity with new leader Peter Lougheed and were gaining momentum and support from voters in Calgary and Edmonton who saw Social Credit as an increasingly backwards, out-of-touch, rurally-based party. Lougheed's PCs would go on to end the Socreds' 36-year dominance of Alberta politics by winning the 1971 general election, but the real tipping point was the PCs' surprising wins in two 1969 by-elections, one of which somewhat unthinkably snatched Manning's former seat away from the Socreds.

Stelmach probably tried not to dwell too much on Strom's brief time as premier as he called two by-elections this week to fill two empty seats, including Ralph Klein's Calgary-Elbow constituency. Kevin Taft's Liberals seem confident they can win at least one of the seats, and why not-Klein faced relatively tough fights in his home riding, sometimes winning with a margin of less than 1 000 votes. Add to that the governing Tories' seemingly bumbling inability to deal with pressing urban issues like housing shortages and a growing infrastructure deficit, along with a general sense that, after 36 years in power (a not-insignificant number, if you skip back a couple of paragraphs), the current regime is growing a little long-in-the-tooth, and you can't help but wonder if Stelmach—who is still personally quite popular and is universally regarded as a "nice guy," which isn't a whole lot different than they way people talked about Strom during his time in power-might be the valiant captain of a boat that is about to sink in much the same way as the good ship Socred did.

And while people tend to use this expression with more than a hint of sarcasm, the fact is that, like with Strom, it honestly couldn't happen to a nicer guy. V

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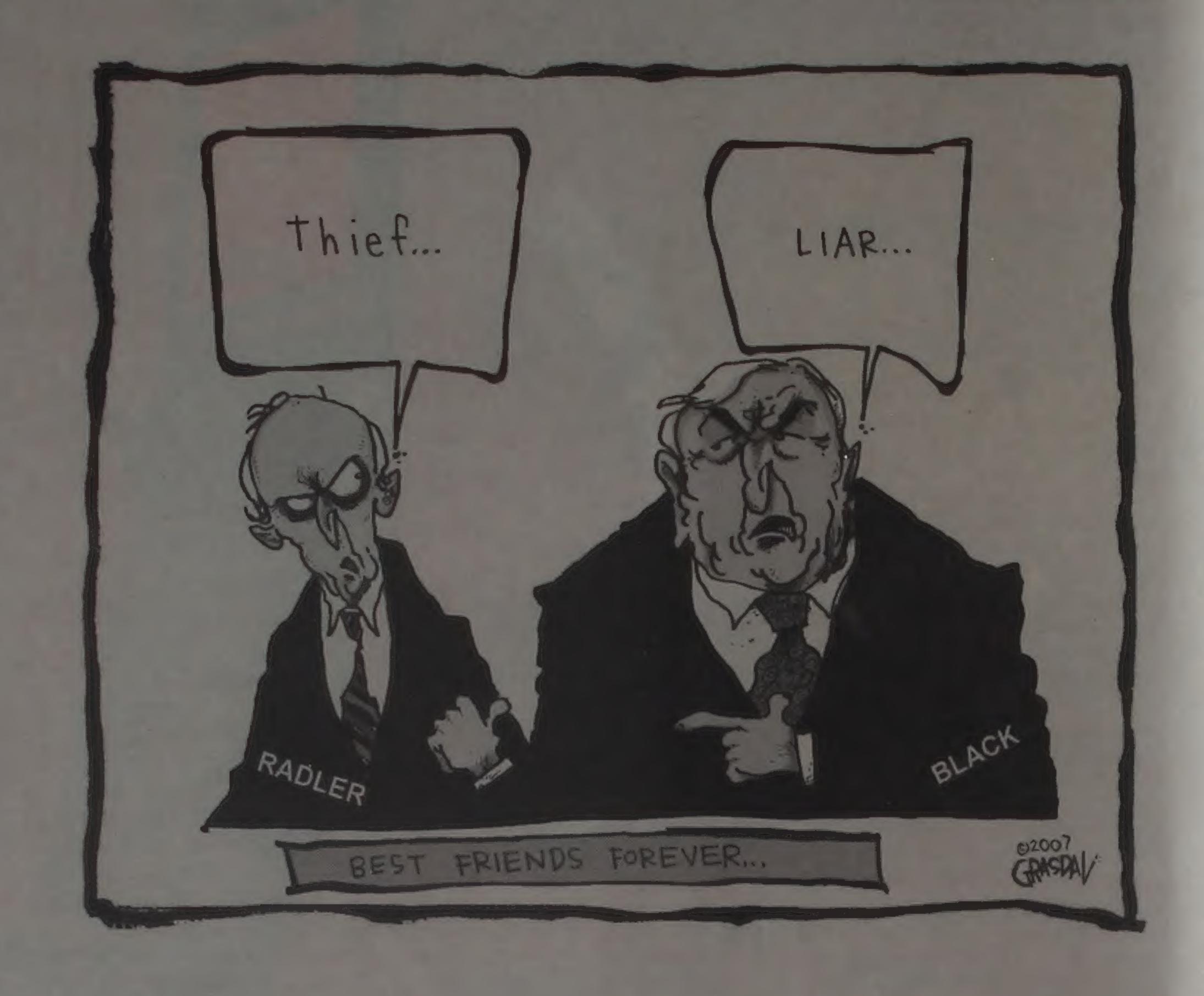
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FORGET HOME TAPING: IT'S SUCKING THAT KILLS THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

I just wanted to drop a line to say "Thank you" to Steven Sandor for pointing out the fact that the biz isn't selling as many records isn't due to piracy only ("Music is dead. Long live music!" Enter Sandor, May 3 - May 9).

I'm old enough to remember the slogan "Home Taping Kills the Music Industry" but we all know that was a fucking sham too. Funny that Sony and others with major label interests were the ones selling us blank tapes in the first place. As Jello said, the sales decline is probably because they "put out too many lousy records."

Even though I'm part of this "biz," the whining and crying makes me sick. The Canadian Recording Industry Association and Recording Industry Association of America are trying to feed us a bunch of disinformation that works in their interest—not that of the public or the artists.

Anyway man, just had to give props. Keep fighting the power.

KEITH MAURIK

READER ENTHRALLED BY REVIEW

I've had about enough. Seriously.

For many many years, Christopher Thrall had kept mentioning in all his restaurant reviews how much he adores and worships his wife (his "bride") and fine, I put up with it. Even though they were supposed to be restaurant reviews he was writing and not love letters to his "bride," I decided to put up with them and continue with my perusal of his reviews. His myriad saccharine-saturated references to his "bride" and the intense love he feels for her was something I found just a teensy weensy bit nauseating and vomit-inducing, to say the least. But now, he's made me truly sick once and for all.

In his review of Maina's Donair in Beaumont ("Explore RIMBY: Restaurants in my backyard," Apr 26 - May 2), Mr Thrall decided that he had to share with the entire Vue-reading world an explicit description of the taste of his wife's breast milk ("Our infant ... dined contentedly at her mother's breast. The baby was in for a treat in a few hours; there would be a sudden sweet spike in her production. Faye [the infant daughter) would finally get her chance to savour that baklava."

Buddy, I seriously don't need to know what the hell your wife's breast milk tastes like, just like you don't need to know what the hell my semen tastes like, OKAY? Unless her breast milk is something which is offered on a menu in a restaurant somewhere, I really don't need to know, OKAY? Enough is enough!! We all know you love her and we all know how much you worship her but enough is enough!! You're writing a restaurant review, not a goddamn letter to Penthouse.

DIAMETER.

Vue Weekly welcomes reader response, whether critical or complimentary. Send your opinion by mail (Vue Weekly, 10303) - 108th Street, Edmonton AB T5J 1L7), by fax (780.426.2889) or by e-mail (letters@vueweekly.com). Preference is given to feedback about articles published in Vue Weekly. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.

Hunter's syndrome becomes the hunted

AFTER INTENSE LOBBYING, EDMONTON FAMILY RECEIVES LIFE-SAVING DRUG

CHRIS SALTEL / saltel@vueweekly.com

received their first dose of a life-saving drug early this month after an extraordinary struggle to attain the coveted medication.

After years of doctors' visits and months of persistent lobbying, Nicole Miranda, whose children suffer from a rare and debilitating disorder called Hunter's syndrome, was given the opportunity to explain herself to Dave Hancock, Alberta's Minister of Health and Wellness.

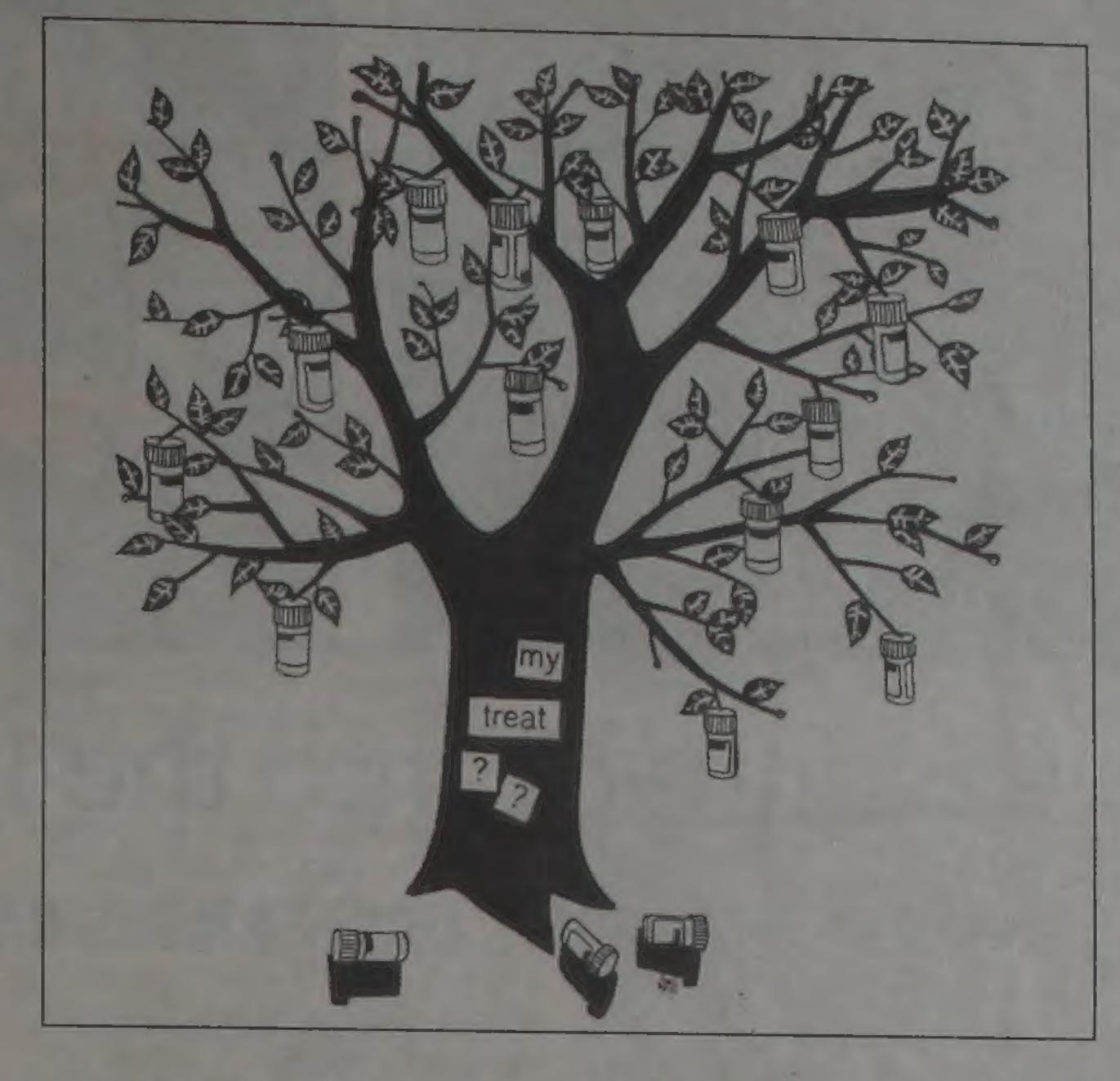
three young boys in a clinical trial of the drug lasting six months. After the trial is complete, an assessment of the effectiveness of treatments will be done by University of Alberta clinical geneticist Dr Alicia Chan; from there, the decision regarding whether or not to continue treatments will be evaluated.

Miranda is just glad that her kids are finally being treated.

"I felt every emotion you could go through while they were receiving the drug," she said. "I was excited, anxious—when they started the infusions I was bawling."

The drug in question is Elaprase, an enzyme treatment. Administration of the drug takes four hours once a week for each child, and it costs in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million dollars to treat the boys. But it is much better than the alternative, according to Miranda.

"Without Elaprase," she insisted,



SHEALTH

"they're not expected [to survive long enough] to graduate."

HUNTER'S SYNDROME IS a disorder in which a persons body does not have the enzyme necessary to consume a certain protein. This protein accumu-

lates in the liver, spleen, joints, heart and sometimes even the brain, causing health complications such as dwarfing of the figure, restricted movement of joints, seeing and hearing complications, heart complications, bone deformities—the complications caused by the disorder are almost unending.

Miranda pointed out that the hospital was very hectic at the first administration of Elaprase, partly because the procedure had never been performed before at the University of Alberta Hospital. A BC physician, Dr Lorne Clark, had nurses visit Alberta to perform the first infusion with regular hospital staff. Dr Clark deals with two Hunter's Syndrome cases in British Columbia, and his patients have been receiving treatment for some time already.

"The biggest thing for [the boys] would be preventing bone complications and complications of the heart," said the U of A's Dr Chan, "You can't reverse anything that has happened."

But since Hunter's syndrome is a progressive disease, halting progression means greatly increasing life expectancy and quality of life. Nicole's youngest boy, Riley, has yet to develop any serious complications due to the disease, and with the administration of Elaprase, he could very well live a relatively normal life.

Among Miranda's advocates in her struggle to receive Elaprase for her kids was Edmonton-Decore MLA Bill Bonko and acclaimed researcher Dr David Wishart from the U of A, who gained fame after being involved in the project to successfully map the human genome.

dan, how taking his medicine felt, and he just shrugged his shoulders. Jordan played with a Game Boy while he was infused with Elaprase.

Each child had their own nurse for

the administration, and pediatric emergency was on site just in case.

"I had imagined seeing that bag of Elaprase," admitted Miranda. "You could have given me the whole world and it wouldn't have meant as much as that bag of Elaprase."

The mother, with the help of MLA Bonko, battled the bureaucratic red tape that was keeping her children from accessing the drug. Elaprase is not yet approved by Health Canada, as the drug is still undergoing clinical trials, in which Miranda's sons are now taking part. Elaprase has been approved for practical use in the United States, the United Kingdom and other various European countries. But the high cost of the drug is really the issue, ranging from \$400 000 to \$600 000 per child per year, depending on the child's weight. The Alberta government has agreed to pick up the tab.

"The night before [the treatment] I didn't sleep at all," Miranda said, a little more emotionally than before, "Every hour felt like a year."

The drug has rendered results after only a couple of administrations on many patients, and is compared by some to insulin for a diabetic. The Miranda family and their supporters are hoping that Tyler, Jordan and Riley will follow suit.

A review of the treatments will take place in November, when officials will decide whether or not the boys will continue receiving Elaprase on the province's tab.

Media criticized as bus beating charges dropped

ROSS MOROZ / ross@vueweekly.com

All charges have been dropped against four Edmonton teens accused of beating a man to death on an Edmonton Transit bus, with defence attorneys, the prosecutor and the victim's father all voicing their frustration with the way the story has been covered by local media outlets.

Early news reports claimed that four teenagers swarmed and attacked

SUSTICE

35-year-old Stefan Conley for no reason while he rode the number 74 bus on Mar 2, 2006, proceeding to savagely kick, punch and stomp him to death. The sensationalistic stories (some commentators speculated that the beating was a kind of gang initia-

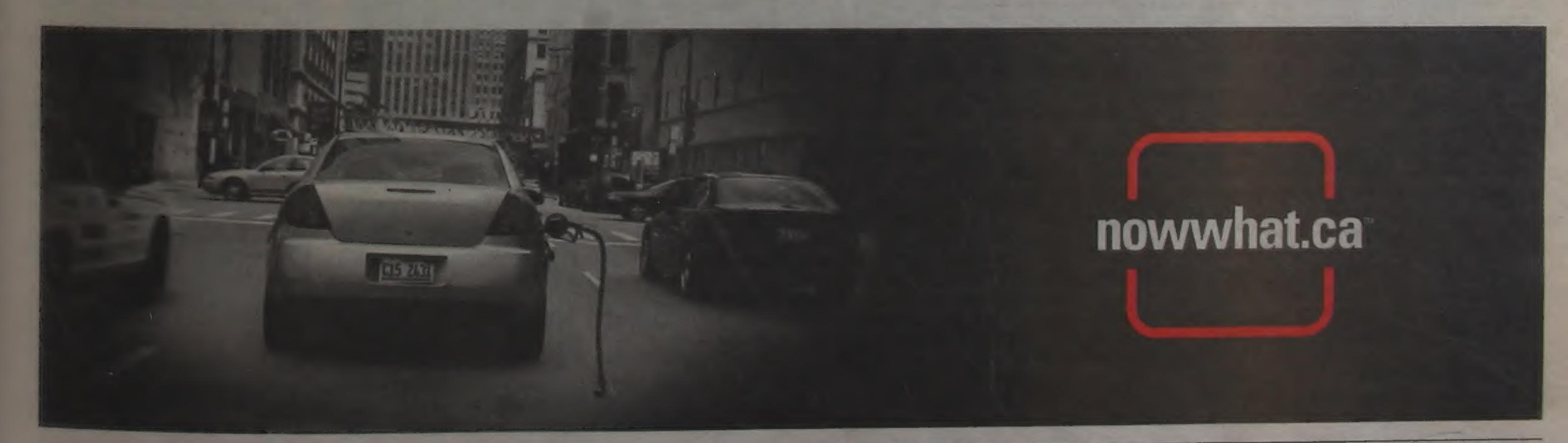
tion) generated a storm of public reaction, and Conley's friends circulated a petition demanding that the teens' bail be revoked.

BUT A PRELIMINARY hearing held in December of 2006 heard witness testimony that drastically contradicted the original reportage of the killing. According to statements from other passengers on the bus, the then 16-

and 17-year-old students of J Percy Page High School were talking loudly about heavy metal music, especially their fondness for the band Metallica. A heavily intoxicated Conley, whose blood alcohol level was revealed by an autopsy to be over twice the legal limit, interjected into the discussion and began to argue with the teens, yelling "You guys don't know metal. Metallica is nothing."

One of the boys then made a vulgar gesture, undoing his belt and the top button of his pants as a sarcastic invitation for Conley to perform oral sex on him. This incited Conley to attack the teen, grabbing him by his jacket and calling him "a punk kid." The other boys began to punch Conley in the face, beating him for about 10

CONTINUES ON PAGE 12









Massive park puts the river back into the River City

DRAFT PLAN PRESENTS A NEW VISION FOR THE CAPITAL REGION'S MOST FAMOUS NATURAL FEATURE

JEREMY DERKSEN / snewzone@wweekly.com

Tere in Alberta, our natural environment is most often regarded simply as a source of fuel and wealth. Edmontonians may like to think their treasured River Valley is an exception, but a quick review of its history suggests otherwise.

The North Saskatchewan has been a centre of commerce since the first explorers came here in their York bases to trade for furs. Many have sought their fortunes along its banks, mining for coal, panning for gold and drilling for oil.

Now, a collective of municipalities, volunteers and other stakeholders has envisioned a new future for our River Valley and are working to promote it to Edmontonians and potential sponsors. On Mar 15, 2007, the River Valley Alliance (RVA) publicly announced their plan to turn an 18 000-acre, 88-kilometre section of the North Saskatchewan River valley—stretching from Devon to Fort Saskatchewan—into a dedicated park ready to take on the likes of Central Park, Hyde Park, Stanley Park and any other comers.

"Central Park is only 843 acres," Hyde Park is only 341 acres," said Solomon Rolingher, chair of the RVA. "What's the relevance of these parks? They define the city centre."

Designed at a cost of \$1.6 million, the RVA's plan calls for over \$600 million in enhancements. Concepts range from simple trail expansion to water taxis for commuter travel between communities. The extent of development, however, is contingent on public consultation efforts and provincial and federal support.

As Rolingher describes it, the plan represents a change from the norm of building over our heritage at every opportunity. He cites examples: in 1915 we dismantled Fort Edmonton, the oldest fort in Alberta (built in 1798); in 1957, we let the "City of Edmonton" steamboat disintegrate from rot.

S RIVER

"Where was the vision of our forefathers then? Nobody bothered to preserve it. Where were their heads?" he asked. It's a sad commentary, perhaps, on the boomtown mentality that still drives us today. His hope is that, with the new plan, that may change.

ROLINGHER HAS platinum white hair and intense blue eyes. He is of average build, but he moves fast and he's a sharpshooter with a Power Point remote. Since 2000 he has chaired the RVA, presenting its cause to various levels of government. Along with the rest of the organization's volunteers, his job has largely been to build consensus.

At the beginning, that involved convincing all seven municipalities

along the proposed route to work together: Edmonton, Devon, Fort Saskatchewan and the counties of Leduc, Parkland, Strathcona and Sturgeon. Then the RVA secured the funding to build the plan and engaged a team of professionals to undertake an environmental, hydrological and geological assessment of the area. Along with the assessment, they set out to envision what elements would best support recreational use as well as historic and natural preservation.

That vision is now captured in a sprawling map that shows a snaking green river valley littered with orange, yellow and red place markers indicating features like heritage sites, rest stops, trails and museums. Many of the features already exist, like the parks and paved trails criss-crossing the valley. Some are new, while still others are old facilities that have been abandoned, such as a

science park near the Esso refinery in Strathcona County.

"There are four buildings, each focusing on a different kind of energy—renewable, non-renewable, nuclear and mechanical. I used to take my kids there," he recalled. "But in the late '80s they ran out of money and it was mothballed."

As he talks, Rolingher's energy and optimism permeate the virtual tour. Where some might see the refineries as unavoidable eyesores, he sees an undeniable part of our heritage. There are also other, older parts of our shared history, like an archaelogical site where University of Alberta researchers discovered a 5 500-year old aboriginal settlement. There's the French village of Lamoreux—a historic village and a rare Canadian example of an ancient land tenure system.

Go further back and there's even dinosaurs. A few years ago, the skele-

ton of a duck-billed dino was found under Groat Road and given the name "Edmontosaur." The RVA plans to build a centre at the site of discovery, including a casting. (The original bones couldn't be repatriated from the Royal Tyrell Museum in Drumheller.)

"There's so much history here in the middle of a million people," Rolingher enthused. "We deserve a park that preserves that, never mind the flora and fauna. And you can walk, run, bike, ski or paddle through it."

Recreation plays a big part in the plan as well. In addition to the trail extension, the plan proposes new boat launches, a marina, new parks, golf courses and upgrades to a biathlon facility near Rundle Park to add to existing amenities including existing golf courses, sports facilities (Kinsmen, Royal Glenora), three ski hills, the Valley Zoo and water ski and wakeboard facility Shalom Park—a venue that has hosted international championships.

has caused concern as well. Charlie Richmond of the Sierra Club's prairie chapter commends the RVA's efforts, but says his organization wants to see a broader environmental focus.

"To travel from Devon to Fort Saskatchewan without hardly ever seeing a building, imagine what an amazing resource that will be," he said. "I can't emphasize enough what an astounding job they've done getting seven jurisdictions to cooperate.

"But RVA's primary focus is recreational," he continued. "We would like to see a broader conservation overlay to include connected ravines and upland areas."

Richmond refers to the Edmonton-Devon Restricted Development Area study, which states that the continued health of deer and other ungulate populations in the region is "absolute-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 11

THREE KEY FEATURES

BIG ISLAND

Just west of Edmonton on the way to Devon, this island is a popular picnic spot but over the years it has also become popular for ATV use. The RVA wants to protect this area by designating it as a natural area for river-access camping and nature-based programs.

TERWILLEGAR PARK

The RVA wants to develop this park as a nature-based out-door recreation park to service the city's expanding southwest population. Nearby attractions include Fort Edmonton, John Janzen Nature Centre, Whitemud Equine Centre and the Valley Zoo.

STRATHCONA WATER PARK

This proposed facility is envisioned as a world-class whitewater and flat water sport venue with athletic training facilities and public attractions. The nearby Edmonton East Major Destination Park would provide additional recreation opportunities including a swimming lake, youth camp, historic residence, conference centre and boat launch.

TWO DBSCURE FACTS

DUR GLACIER IS THE BEST

The North Saskatchewan is fed by the only hydrogeometric source in North America, meaning that the Columbia Icefield that feeds our river flows into three oceans—the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic.

LEBUC USES GOALS TO GUT GRASS

Really ... and with the trail expansion, you'll be able to ride the trails and check it out; and there may be potential to borrow this idea to get more free time in the valley—these multi-tasking goats can probably fertilize, too.

AND ONE BIG MAYBE ...

The RVA plan is just a framework and it could grow or shrink depending on consultation and funding. One possibility Rolingher mentions (although in all likelihood it's not going to happen) is considering purchase of a barge that uses river water to create a flowing wave for surf and water sports. There's already a prototype operating in Holland. Imagine an Edmonton surf vacation ... V

Solve the housing crisis with the 'Three Rs'

GLEN CRAIG / albertahousing coalition.ca

What caused this housing crisis? It's easy to blame your community or the province, but what is the role of the federal government, and what resources should they provide to deal with the housing issue?

The federal government basically stopped funding social housing in 1993. At that time, approximately 16 per cent of all rental housing in Canada had received some level of federal government funding. There has been some increased federal funding in the past few years but not enough to make a real difference. We need a significant 10-year funding program from both the federal and provincial governments and the commitment to meet their agreed upon Roles, Responsibilities and the Resources they will each provide—the "Three Rs."

Our submission to the Alberta Affordable Housing Task Force recommended that they develop a coordinated package of solutions that not only reinforce each other but which also engage a broader range of stakeholders in the implementation of the solutions. This coordinated package of solutions must capitalize on both individual and collective strengths of each participant and clearly identify the roles, responsibilities and the resources that each participant brings to the table and any additional resources they can access. The Three Rs is a critical missing piece of the housing solution puzzle. We challenged the Task Force to clearly define the Three Rs of all three orders of government and the private sector in their report.

We are very disappointed that the Task Force report did not address this critical issue. The recent provincial budgetwith the resulting arguments over the education tax rebate to communities being conditional on municipalities required to fund housing projectsshows how critical the issue is.

HOWEVER, THE PROVINCE should be congratulated on addressing the housing issue. Their commitment and leadership is apparent and must be recognized. There are significant increases in funding and a new understanding of how appropriate housing is critical for the health of individuals, along with the social and economic health of communities. A number of the Task Force recommendations have been referred to other departments or committees for further evaluation.

The provincial government did not, though, accept the recommendation to establish an Alberta Housing Plan. We urge the province to reconsider this decision. There are too many departments, committees, municipalities and stakeholders to plan, coordinate and facilitate housing direction for Alberta without having an agreed upon strategy and plan. We need a commitment to better integrate and coordinate housing policies, programs, Ministries and Departments with other sectors such as health, education, social services, children's services and community economic development. Finding the right mix of policy measures is critical.

The Coalition has supported restricting condominium conversions on existing affordable housing stock. We are very concerned about the issue of rent controls. Do they work? Provincial research on other provinces programs suggest it could lead to a decrease in the rental housing stock. It could discourage private sector investment in rental properties and put even more onus on the government itself to create housing.

The province does have rent controls on a significant number of rental units that have received federal and provincial funding from the Affordable Housing Partnership Initiative over the past few years. This is an excellent program that encourages significant private sector investment. However, the program only requires a 20-year commitment from the developer to maintain rent controls. The program should be amended to require guaranteed permanent affordability. The focus must be on creating more affordable housing units in Alberta.

Our position paper has several recommendations for tax, zoning and legislative changes required to encourage more government and private sector investment in affordable housing. The three main alternatives to creating more long-term affordable housing are building non-profit housing, providing rent supplements and providing tax credits for developers of rental housing. While all three have benefits, building non-profit housing provides the best long-term results. v

Glen Craig is president of the Alberta Housing Coalition, a Red Deer-based, province-wide organization that works to promote changes to public policy that will enhance affordability and reduce homelessness.

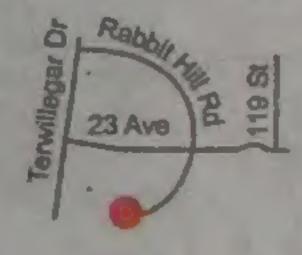




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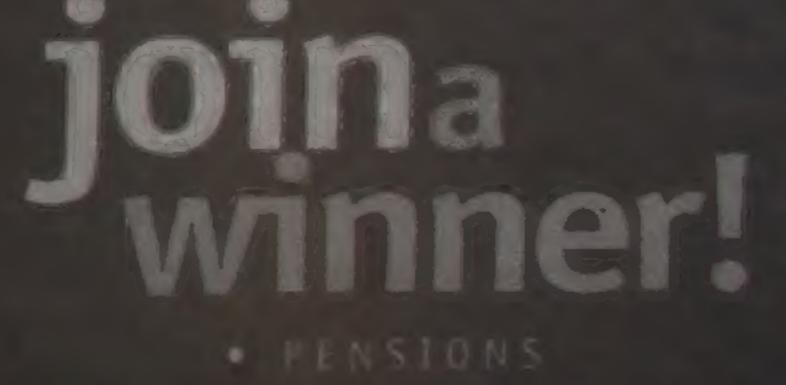


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Conference puts Housing First on agenda

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION PARTNERS WITH MID-SIZED CITIES TO SOLVE HOUSING CRISIS

CHRIS SALIEL / salte @ vuenue kly.com

A lbertans are all too aware of the difficulties involved with finding affordable housing in the province. But this problem poses special challenges to members of the community who live in poverty or who have physical or other disabilities.

"Housing is at a crisis state," stressed Patricia Turnbull, executive director of the Canadian Mental Health Association. Her group, in partnership with the cities of Red Deer, Grand Prairie and Lethbridge, has called for a conference to take place to discuss the difficulties poised by the housing crisis, and a call for constructive ideas.

The conference, billed as Housing

First, will take place Jun 12 - 13 in



HOUSING FIRST
PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE
EFYNOTE SPEECH BY REX MURPHY
CAPRI HOTEL, RED DEER
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Red Deer and will feature an impressive line-up of speakers, including Canadian Broadcasting Corporation political editorialist Rex Murphy. There will also be presentations by Mainstay Housing from Toronto, the Vancouver City Police and the American Indian Community Development Corporation, as well as representatives of mental health associations from across the continent.

"We hope people will leave the conference with information regarding the problems we are facing," commented Maribeth Friesen of the City of Red Deer's Social Planning department. "People need to be informed of doing things in different and new ways."

Turnbull agrees, stressing the importance of innovation. "We want to expose people to new ways to support people who are struggling to find housing," she insisted. "A big part of it is to have people look at things in a

different way."

For these organizers, if the conference can offer up some practical ways to address homelessness that is affecting one of societies most vulnerable and exposed demographics—the mentally handicapped—then it will have been a major success.

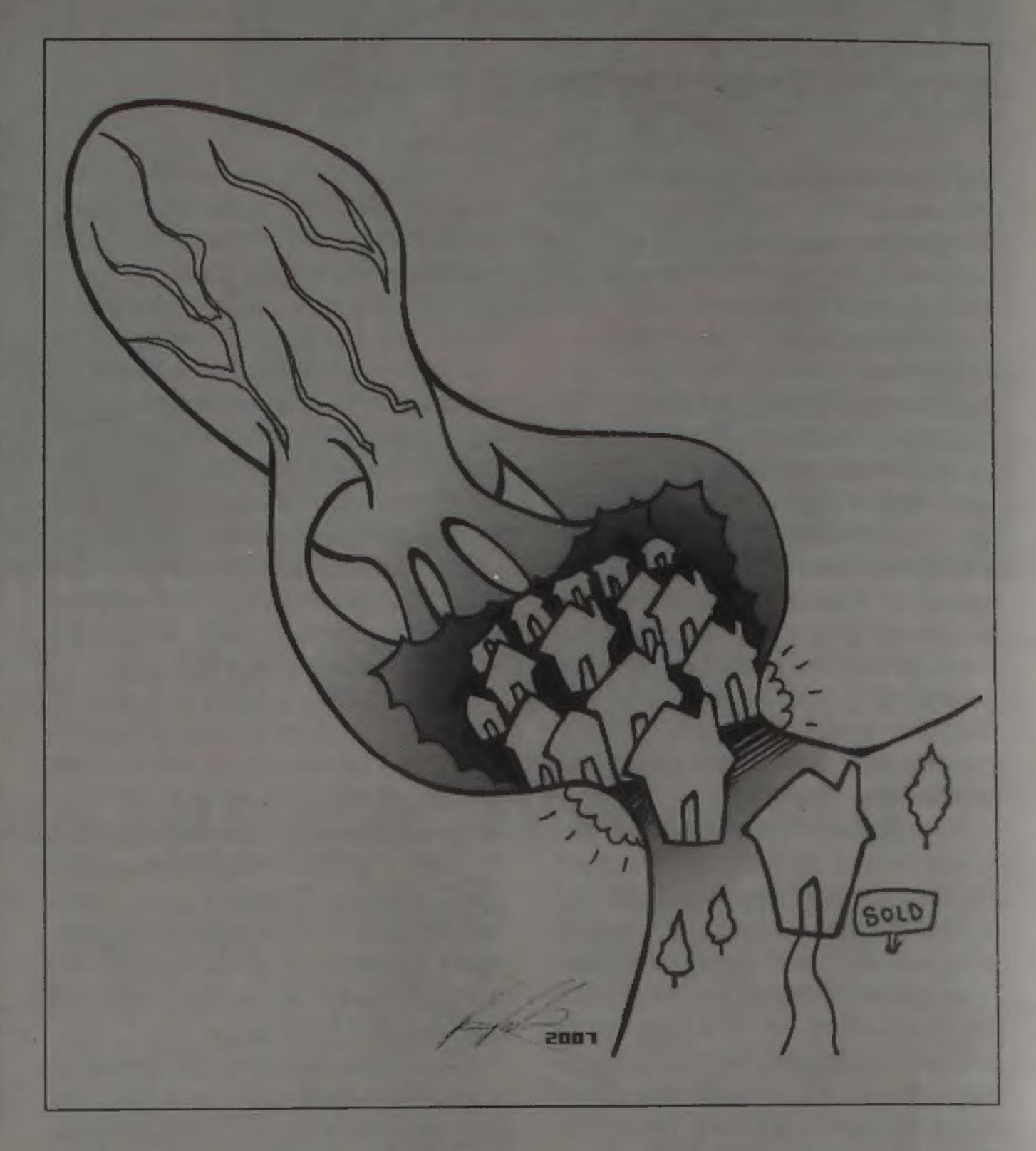
TURNBULL, WHO HAS been planning the conference for over a year now, has high hopes for the conference.

"We need to take a Housing First sort of stance," she said. "We need to put people in homes and then worry about the rest after."

"Historically we have managed homelessness very well," agreed Friesen, "but we haven't eliminated it."

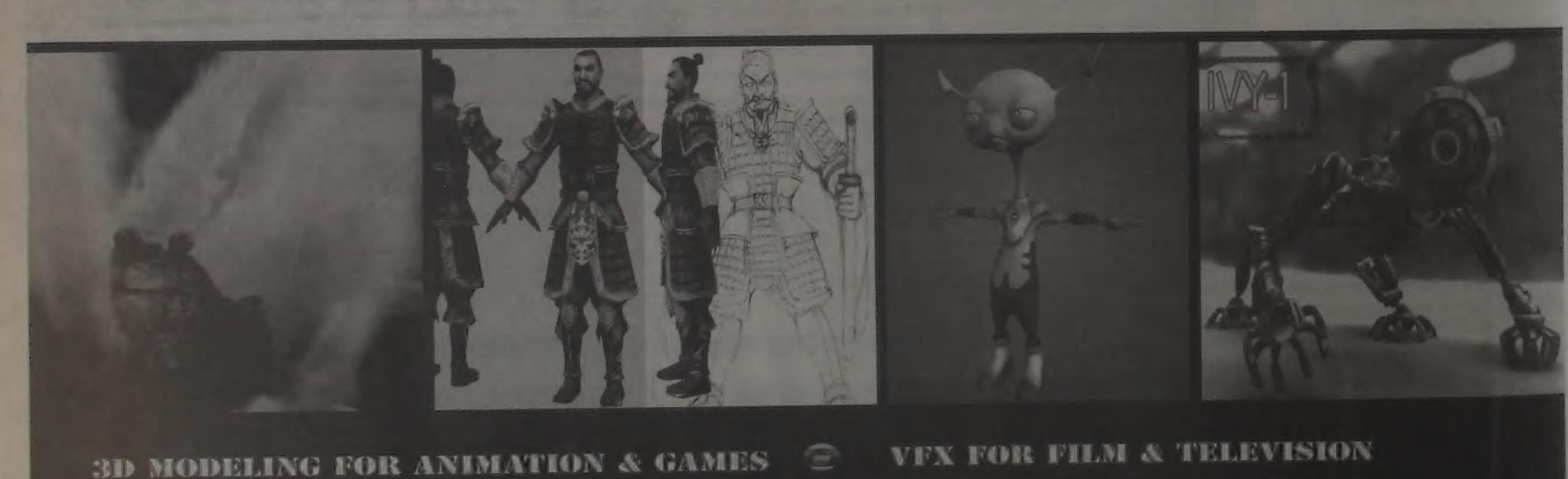
The conference expects between 300 and 500 attendees, and hopes to attract property managers, service providers involved with housing, bureaucrats from all levels of government—especially municipal—and members of the general public interested in the situation.

Friesen is heeding the call for "innovative solutions and tools," hoping that the various presentations will be able to develop a wide spectrum of new ways of addressing the housing crisis in the province.



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WELL, WELL, WELL = | nealth@vueweekly.com

We love our cordless phones, cellphones and wireless hotspots, so we breathe a collective sigh of relief with reports like the recent Danish one that found no relationship between cellphone use and cancer incidence.

Scientists know the dangers of highfrequency ionizing radiation, although the signals that bring us cordless phones and wireless internet are considered safe because of their low intensities. But electromagnetic radiation (EMR) has become a hot topic again, and though industry and government continue to assure us there is no increased health risk associated with use, other stories raise doubtstories like clusters of 30 people in a single UK neighbourhood with cancer, or student nosebleeds in a school so common that teachers keep their pockets stuffed with tissues, just in case.

The little detail these two particular places share in common is that they're in the path of two converging mobile phone tower beams.

Many studies throughout the world have shown ties to leukemia, brain cancer, eye tumours and Alzheimer's, some showing more than double the incidence of brain tumours on the right side of the brain among heavy cellphone users—evidence enough to convince the Japanese to ban cellphone use on public transport because of second hand EMR.

RINGTONES

- 1) Don't Matter Akon
- 2) Girlfriend Avril Lavigne
- 3) Paralyzer Finger Eleven
- 4) Glamorous Fergie
- 5) This is Why I'm Hot
- 6) This Is Why I'm Hot(chorus)
- 7) Super Mario Bros. Super Marlo Bros.
- 8) Smack That feat. Eminem
- 9) Beautiful Liar Beyonce & Shakira
- 10) Umbrella Rihanna



In Australia, where there are few landlines and an abundance of wireless phone towers, the number one disease among children is brain cancer. And lesser problems such as night-time wakefulness, headaches, chronic fatigue, heart palpitations and buzzing in the ears are being reported around the world by those living near cellphone towers.

SO WHAT ABOUT THE Danish study that says wireless technology is safe? Dr George Carlo, a researcher for the Wireless Technology Research (WTR) project, says the Danish study was an industryfriendly design. Anyone who had used a cellphone as little as once a week qualified as a user (which is not exactly typical of cellphone users), while commercial subscribers—those most likely to use heavily—were excluded from the study.

Funding for the study, turned down by the WTR project, later came from the wireless industry itself-presumably because it looked, given its design, as if it was not likely to produce any incriminating results. And the industry then worked



hard to keep the less positive findings of Dr George Carlo from the public.

Many insurance groups refuse to cover the cellphone industry for health effects attributed to its technology, and US cellular service provider Verizon requires buyers sign an agreement not to sue the manufacturer in the event of health complications—in fine print, of course.

I have to wonder if this isn't because those with money at stake tend to have faith not in industry-friendly studies but in the more than 20 000 studies that have shown things like DNA breakage, broken blood-brain barriers (which protect our brains from toxins in the blood stream) and altered electrical patterns in the brain that persist for a full hour after exposure.

This is more than a little depressing, because even if we don't use cellphones (which I do), transmission towers are all around.

Entrusting my health to Health Canada, who regulates the industry and continues to assure us that our levels of exposure are safe, is a bit of a stretch for me, because of its close ties to Industry Canada, the department responsible for management of wireless systems. The department receives

millions of dollars from the wireless industry in licensing and other fees, and it's conceivable that a regulatory body tied to one that profits from the industry it regulates sometimes has just a teensy bit of difficulty maintaining neutrality.

Many European governments have put moratoriums on new towers near residential areas, hospitals, schools and daycares, and are now ordering existing towers removed. But since we here in North America tend to take our time on things like this, often waiting until irreversible damage is done, I'm thinking of making my home somewhere deep in the Rockies. I know from experience that signals there are hard to come by. I sat early one morning on a remote highway with a completely flat tire, no access to my spare (it was chained underneath, the key at home), three kids in the car and no phone signal anywhere within walking distance. If signals aren't available when we most need them, why bathe in EMR day and night? v



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How long will it take to form a world parliament?

DYER STRAIG

For I dipped into the future, far as human eye could see,

Saw the vision of the world, and all the wonders there would be,

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,

Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales ...

Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle-flags were furled

In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

-Alfred Tennyson, 1842

One hundred and 65 years later, Tennyson would be impressed by the amount of air travel, and he would be encouraged by the steep decline in wars among the great powers. (They still attack small countries from time to time, but at least they don't fight each other, which is when the mass deaths happen.) He would, however, be astonished that nothing has yet been done to make international society democratic.

There is already a world administration of sorts, in the form of the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and so on, but it is all in the hands of governments—and some governments are much

more equal than others, so none of the global institutions ever acts against the will of the powerful. (Occasionally they

refuse to approve some deed of the powerful, as the UN did briefly over the US invasion of Iraq, but that is all.) And nowhere in all the layers of bureaucrats and diplomats is there any direct representation of ordinary people.

And so, only 62 years after the foundation of the UN, the Campaign for the Establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA) launches this week in five continents. It has the signatures of 377 members of national parliaments from 70 countries, six former foreign ministers/secretaries and various other international luminaries like Vaclav Havel, Guenther Grass and former UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali. But it also has a few little problems.

One is a distinct lack of Americans: only nine of those signatories are from the United States. The well-known American allergy to international institutions that might infringe on the absolute sovereignty of the United States

have no legislative or executive power.

AND THAT IS PRECISELY the problem: what is the point of this hypothetical



world parliament, given that it would have no power over the UN Security Council, the IMF, the World Bank or any of the other real decision-making centres?

The Campaign, whose headquarters is in Germany, explains that the UNPA "is

envisaged as a first practical step towards the long-term goal of a world parliament," but it would not even be elected in the first phase of its existence. Members from various national parliaments would be chosen, by whatever means each country saw fit, to sit together at the UN for a few weeks a year. It is the feeblest of symbolic gestures—you wonder why they even bother.

European enthusiasts point out that when the European Parliament was first set up in 1958 its members were chosen by the national parliaments of member-states and had little control over the decisions of the European Union—as at the UN, those remained in the hands of national governments and of the international institutions that they directly controlled. But in 1979 they started electing members of the European Parliament directly, which gave it real democratic legitimacy. Little by little, it has gained some degree of

control over what happens in Brussels.

It would take a very long time indeed for the same sort of evolution to occur at

the UN level, where even the number of members each country gets would be the subject of fierce disputes. Would China really have as many members as the hundred smallest countries combined, which is what its population entitles it to? Would America settle for one-third as many members as India (assuming it agreed to be represented at all)? Obviously not, but what would be the right numbers?

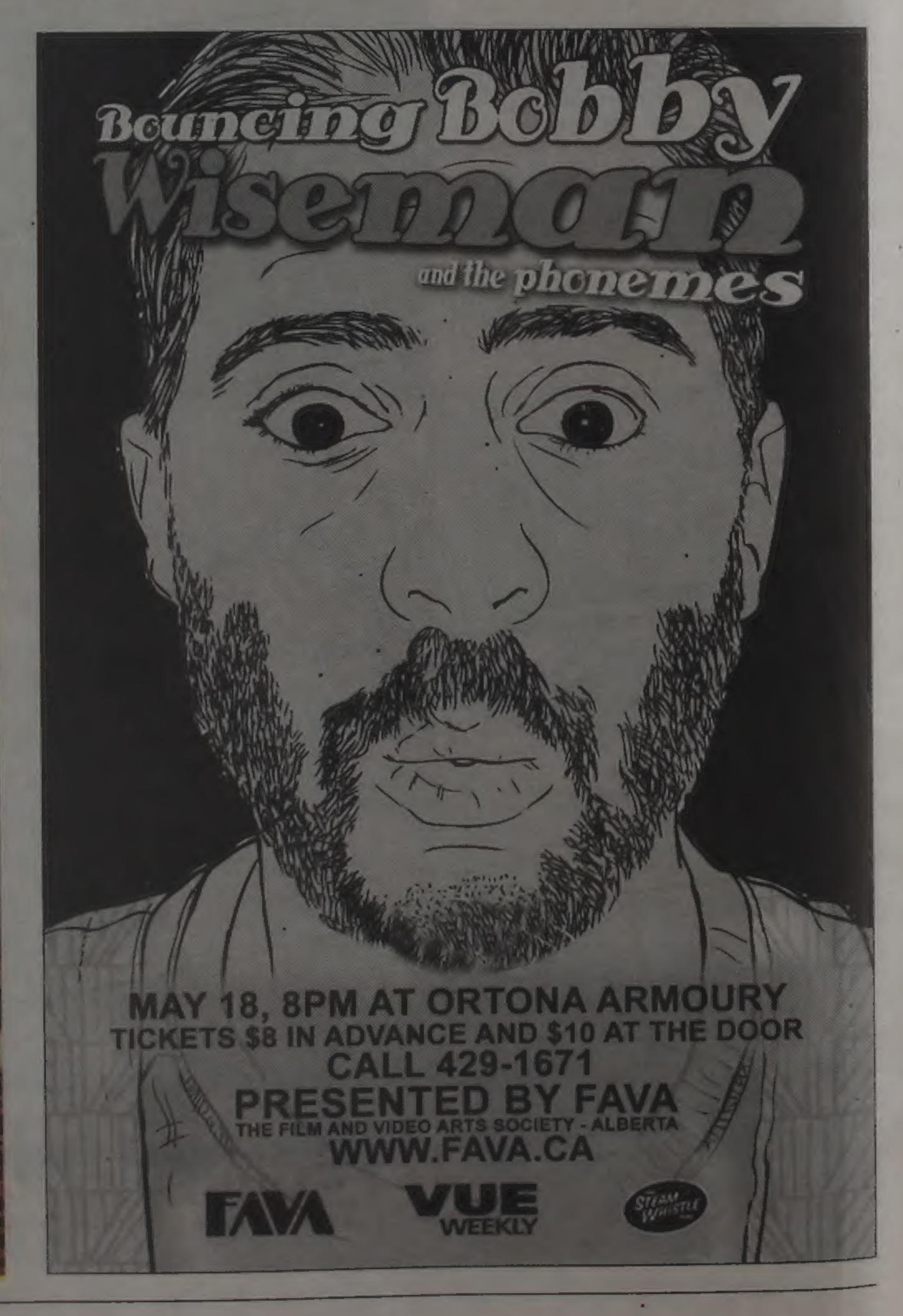
At best, the supporters of the UNPA would have to work their way through all those problems and accept that, for the next 20 or maybe 50 years, what they have created will be a debating chamber and nothing more. Is it worth all the effort for that damp squib of a result?

Yes, certainly. It would be open to individual countries to start electing their own members of the UNPA from the start, so that it had more democratic legitimacy. And although real power might take generations to arrive, from the very start a parliament of this sort would provide a very different perspective on the world—and a more realistic one—than the pious debates of the General Assembly and the hard-ball great-power politics of the Security Council. It would be very interesting at least, and maybe quite instructive.

So tell Lord Tennyson to come back in another hundred years, and maybe we'll have something to show him.

Gwynne Dyer is a London-based independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries. His column appears regularly in Vue Weekly.





RIVER VALLEY

CANTELLED FROM PAGE 8

to upland habitats "

that have already been expressed to that have already been expressed to that I was including concerns about an developing the trail network and tark, especially where trails are in heared.

*Natural areas ought to be hanced, not compromised," wrote lat. Bol. tad a Sierra Club member with him are city councillor, in email and the task we don't need trails in the task.

When asked about conservation efforts, Rolingher insisted "That's what we're about—preservation, protection and enhancement. We're going to actively preserve wildlife areas—where fish spawn, where birds hatch and animals graze, there will be no access there. We will only develop on previously disturbed land."

The RVA's efforts to date, however, haven't measured up to the Sierra Club's standards.

"Environmental efforts so far have been restricted to bio-inventory, which is a rough count of the animals in the region. It doesn't take into account the impacts of development," Richmond argued.

"There's a shifting paradigm in parks. It used to be like a zoo—get one of everything and put a fence around it—but that's changing to a focus on creating natural macro-corridors," he added. "If we do that here, there's an opportunity to make our River Valley an international asset."

FOR NOW, NOTHING IS set in stone.

Since announcing the plan, the RVA has been collecting feedback through community open houses and a public survey available on its website at tivervalley.ab.ca. So far, Rolingher says, the majority of comments have been positive.

After consultation, the RVA plans to give presentations to the seven municipal councils in June and July 2007, with provincial and federal meetings to follow.

The important thing, Rolingher says, is not necessarily to get approval and funding for all elements of the plan right away. Some things may or may not make it into final plans, but the RVA wants to get approval for the statutory plan overlay so work can begin.

No matter what differences they may have in their visions for the area, both the Sierra Club and the RVA agree that preserving the River Valley is an important legacy for our city, and the time to start is now.

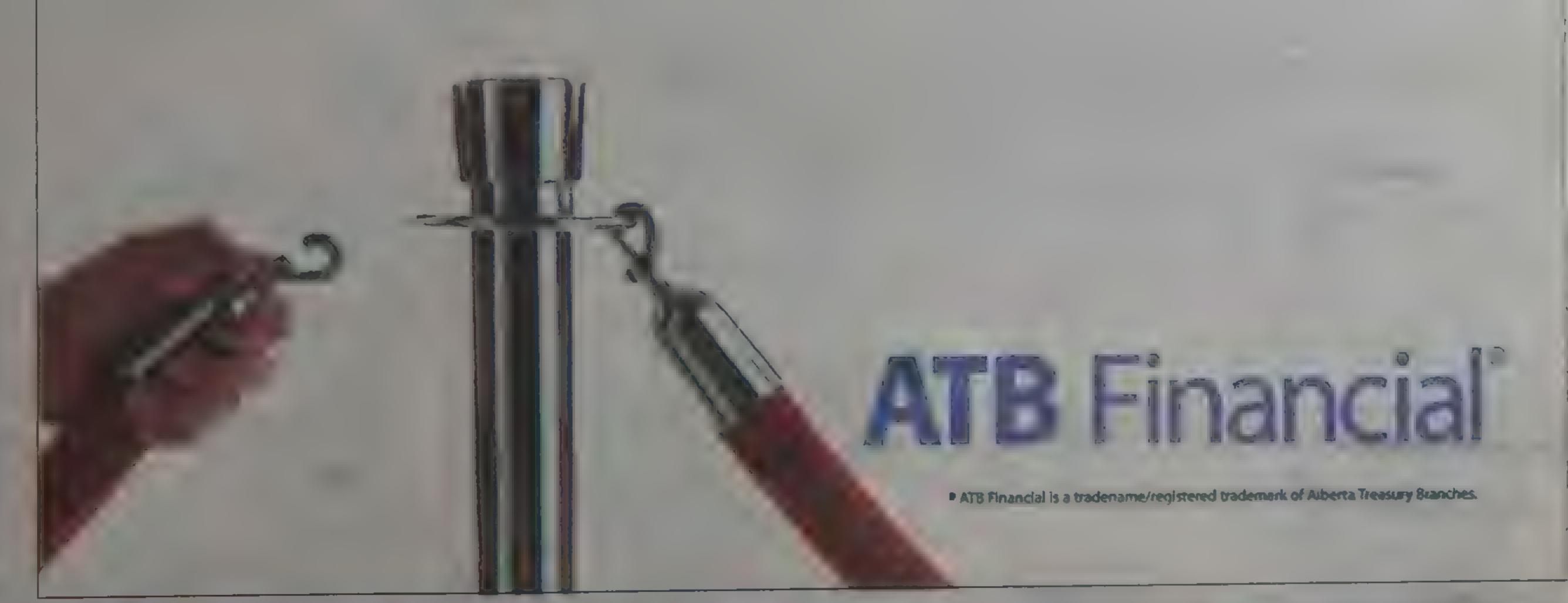
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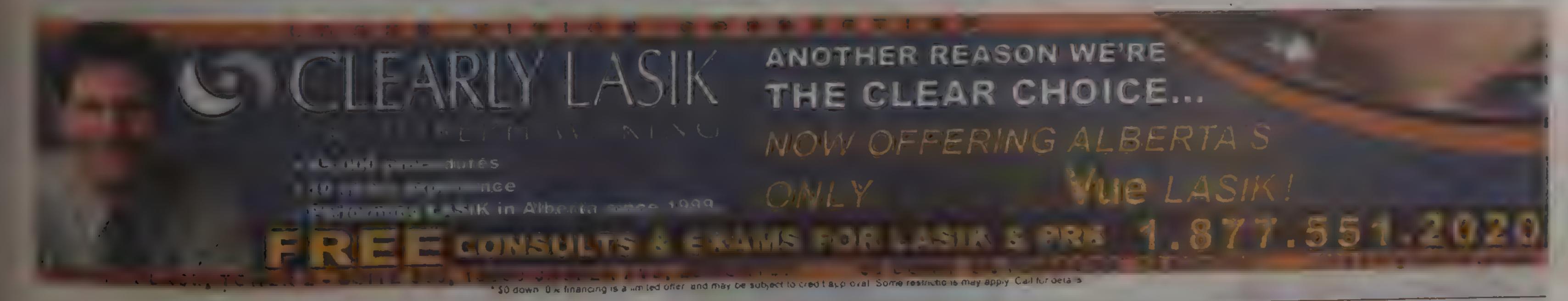
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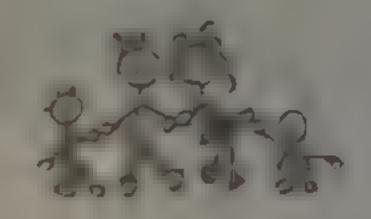
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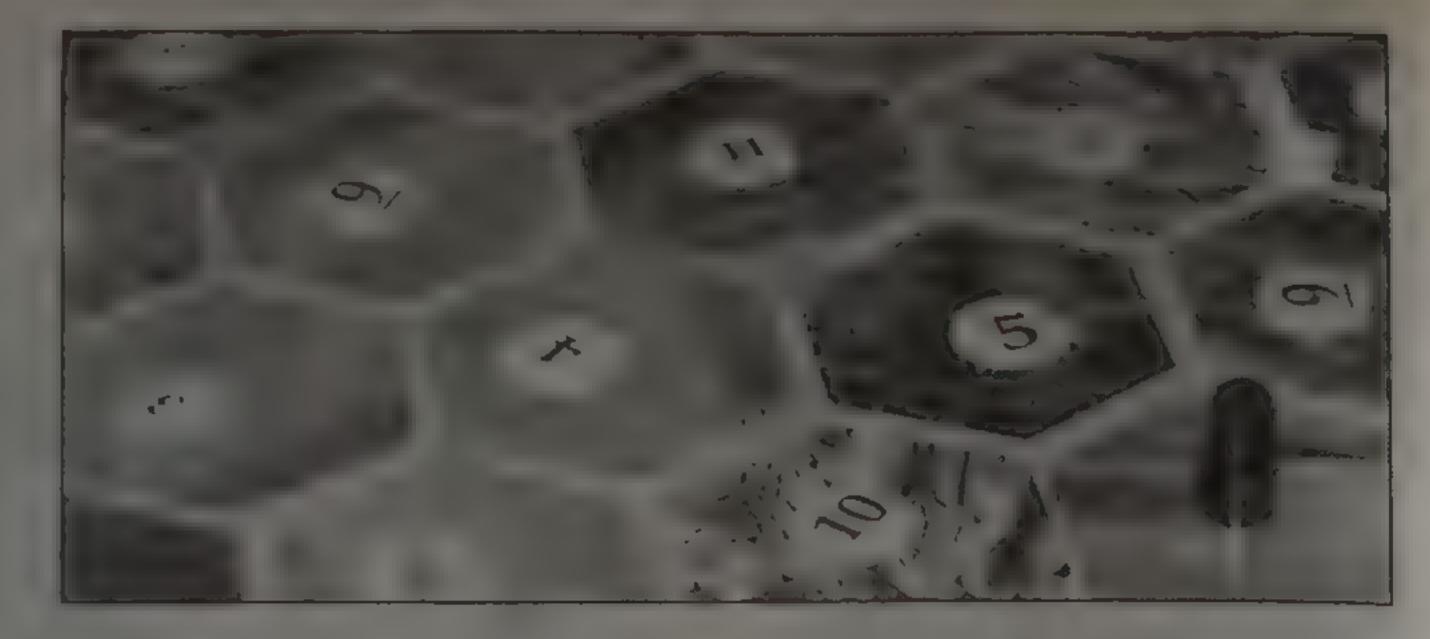
How do you avoid the lure of WoW?



After all these years, to once face an ancient nemesis, a phantom construct brought to life through the alchemy of electricity and mathematics: the disembodied digital zombie intelligence of Sun Tzu. When last I did battle with the great Chinese military philosopher, dead in the flesh since the fifth century BC, it was on the CGA battlefields of The Ancient Art of War on my old Tandy 1000. That was over 20 years ago, and he kicked my ass then just as he's kicking my ass nowwith cold, dispassionate perfection.

This latest software resurrection of Master Sun is one of the Al opponents in Catan, the XBox Live Arcade version of Klaus Teuber's near-perfect tabletop game The Settlers of Catan, and it's a killer. Alexander, all go-for-broke action, I can read and deal with. Elizabeth, overcautious and naïve in resource trading, rolls over easy. Shaka's tough, but hampered by the peculiar guilelessness of a warrior's honor, Sun Tzu, though ... he bides his time, sees the future, builds strength where you can see it and unleashes it when you don't expect it. He plays like ...

... like a computer, I guess. It's real easy to anthropomorphize when you're playing Catan—the Al opponents feel like real people, with their own agendas and styles and infuriating quirks. The only things missing from this excellent digitization of tabletop Settlers are the constant bitching and moaning of poor losers (though the Als' slightly creepy use of animated emotes-blown kisses, tossed bombs, etcetera-brings a bit of that) and the small pleasure of building little forts and towers with your reserve gamepieces while you wait for people to hem and haw their way though their turns.



it work, as Settlers of Catan is an intensely social game: the politics of resource trading, the exercising of vendettas, the cutting of desperate deals. The easy way of programming an Al-starting with mathematical perfection and then creating various difficulty levels by manipulating the frequency at which the program makes stupid errors—would have left Catan's single-player experience feeling cheap and empty. For a strategy fan, the next-worst thing to an Al that wins by cheating is an Al that loses by being randomly retarded.

Of course, Catan is intended for online play, with real people thinking real thoughts, using human strategies, making honest human blunders, swearing human swears and hurling human sexual insults. Since you cant play a multiplayer game on a single system—really, there's no way there could be a single-system multiplayer and have it still be Settlers—going online is the only way to get something like the human experience from Catan. Aside from the obvious social problem—if you play over XBox Live, you have to play with XBox Live gamers—I have one enormous difficulty with the idea of getting my settlers fix online: it would ruin my life.

HONESTY TIME. I HAVE an addiction problem, an increasingly common one: online games can burrow right into my The quality of Cataris Al is what makes soul, so I have to avoid situations where

they might snare me. I've been tentacled before and have always managed to shake myself free, but I know that if I got careless it'd be only a matter of time before real trouble would start.

You think I don't drool over World of Warcraft screenshots? I read about WoW. even the dumbest fanboy messageboard garbage, and my heart screams to be part of it, to join guilds and power-level and camp and bitch about nerfing and all the rest. Even a super-simple online strategy game like kDice (kdice.com; check it out) has been known to knock 12 hours out of my life at a sitting. So I have to stay away. I don't even have an XBox Live Gold membership—the simplicity, elegance and depth of Catan are so captivating I'd never get out if I got in.

So I get my social Settlers kick the oldfashioned way: out of the box, with whoever I can convince of cajole into playing Meanwhile, I hone my skills, imagining rivalries and relationships with pieces of software, cussing out the virtual Sun Tzu every time he surprises me with a perfectly executed flurry of roadbuilding to steal the Longest Road honor and cut me off from needed ore deposits, griping when that big baby Alexander won't trade because I dicked him over with the robber one too many times, enjoying dumb Elizabeth's coquettish kisses while I run her into the ground. 💌

BUS BEATING

CONTINUED TRACES

seconds while yelling "Get off him!" The punching ceased when Conley let go of their friend. The group then exited the bus, apologizing to the bus driver for the commotion. No witnesses reported any kicking or stomping.

The hearing also allowed Edmonton Police Service Constable Maurice Brodeur to testify on behalf of the defence. The officer responded to a late-night noise complaint at Conley's Old Strathcona walk-up apartment a week before the altercation on the bus. He was let in by a frantic, tire-iron wielding Conley, whom Brodeur described as "volatile" and "in a rage" because of the loud music coming from the apartment below. Brodeur said that the teenaged boys in the apartment-who were smoking marijuana and playing video games-told him that Conley had poked one of them sharply with the tire iron earlier in the evening. The officer also testified that he warned Conley that he would "have to be careful," as under the circumstances the teens could have legally attacked Conley in self-defence.

AFTER CHARGES AGAINST the teens were officially dropped in court on Fri, May 11, Chief Crown prosecutor Bart Rosborough was critical of media coverage of the beating, noting that it had spurred a "vehement public reaction."

"The original reports suggested the youths had swarmed and ruthlessly beat the deceased after little provocation," he said. "The evidence did not bear this out at all."

Defence lawyers also cited exaggerated and inaccurate reportage as having complicated the case, jeopardizing their clients' right to a fair trial.

"[The defendants] were at the centre of such a citywide hurricane," said desence lawyer Laura Stevens. "It was a very frightening feeling for someone that age."

Lawyers for the defendants found the initial news reports so grossly erroneous that they did not ask for a publication ban on the case—a highly unusual tactic in a preliminary hearing, where revelations of damaging evidence could influence potential jurors—as they were confident that the facts of the case would exonerate their clients if reported accurately.

"I think it was important that the

public have the ability to see this case as it was reported, said defence attor ney Peter Royal. "The weaknesses in the case were very apparent and they were publicized."

Even Conley's stepfather, who said he had hoped to see the case go to trial, was extremely critical of the news media's handling of the case, accusing reporters of sensationalizing and exaggerating events. Steve Conley regrets having had his stepson's remains cremated after speaking to local reporters from his home in Ontario before travelling to Edmonton for Conley's funeral, who told him his stepson had been beaten beyond recognition.

"We made the decision that we would prefer to remember him the way we remembered him from the last time we saw him, as opposed to some bloody, brutalized mess," he said, noting that the coroner's report indicated that Conley sustained only minor cuts and bruises.

"It's really changing my opinion of what I read in the media," Conley's stepfather told the Canadian Press. "Is anybody in the media going to stand up and say we reported a story without the facts?"

Veteran cop Vs gay porn, loses \$

ROOS MOROZ / ross @vueweekly.com

n I dreonton Police Service constable has been docked 20 chours of overtime pay for her p. vi judgment (not to mention her rather juvenile sense of humour) after downloading an image exclaiming "I (heart) Gay Porn" onto a suspect's computer while executing a search warrant. Constable Christie Pennie, a 10-

year veteran of the force, was one of at least a dozen officers from the EPS and the RCMP who searched a northside townhouse in February of 2006 as part of Project Koker, an operation that resulted in the laying of 53 drug and weapons charges against 18 individuals, including two Hell's Angels.

According to testimony heard by a disciplinary hearing held on Thu, May 10, Pennie used a computer in the bedroom of the townhouse, whose 24year-old owner was eventually charged with a number of drug offences, to Google the term "gay porn," finding the "I (heart) Gay Porn" image and setting it as the computer's desktop background.

TWO OF THE RCMP officers present faced a reprimand and counselling for their role in the horseplay, which Pennie herself reported to superiors on the Monday following the incident, which took place on a Friday afternoon

"My actions did cause me to lose a lot of sleep over the weekend as I was very upset with myself, I then conducted myself in a stressed manner towards my family, which was unfair to them as it was my actions that brought me stress," Pennie wrote in a memo to her superiors. "From the very beginning I've had remorse over it. I don't have any excuse for my behaviour, and making an excuse just cheapens it all."

Sergeant Tony Simioni, Pennie's legal counsel during the disciplinary hearing, blamed her conduct on "peer

"People joke, people horse around," he argued. "We all have heard of jokes that have occurred in our own work-" like that are inappropriate in hind-

"Peer pressure is a very pervasive phenomenon," he added. v





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MAY 17 - MAY 23, 2007

Just a couple of assholes and their opinions ...



Four teams still remain in the hunt for this vear's Stanley Cup (three depending on what happened Wednesday night while this issue was being printed) and the season is coming to an end. The 2007 draft (featuring as many as three Oiler picks in the first round) is June 22nd. Only 37 days until any notable Oilers news.

Since they say opinions are like assholes and everyone has one, here's some of Dave's asshole opinions:

OWNERSHIP The recent publicized interest of local billionaire Daryl Katz in buying the Oilers has churned up some talk on the radio shows about the Oilers owners. After the Peter Pocklington experience, I think having one team owner (Katz or anyone else) runs the risk of things being too erratic and volatile. The team's future in Edmonton is reliant on one man's fortunes and expectations. If his experience in the city or his own personal financial stability is threatened, the risk of that guy deciding to move the team or make decisions that could negatively affect the team on a whim is always out there. With several owners, though, the team is not at the mercy of one man or his particular financial ups and downs. Decisions made by a group are usually more conservative. 37 owners are too many, though. The Flames have nine owners. In this case, they seem to have a better ownership system.

SMYTTY He's not coming back. Time has passed since he was traded and the team and its fans will go on without him. He will always be welcomed and will always be seen as a fan favourite. Wouldn't mind being wrong on this one.

DRAUGHT The beer at Skyreach is much more potent than normal beer. I still don't know why. It's just Molson Canadian (or Coors Light if you're into that) but it has more of a kick at the game than it does in the real world.

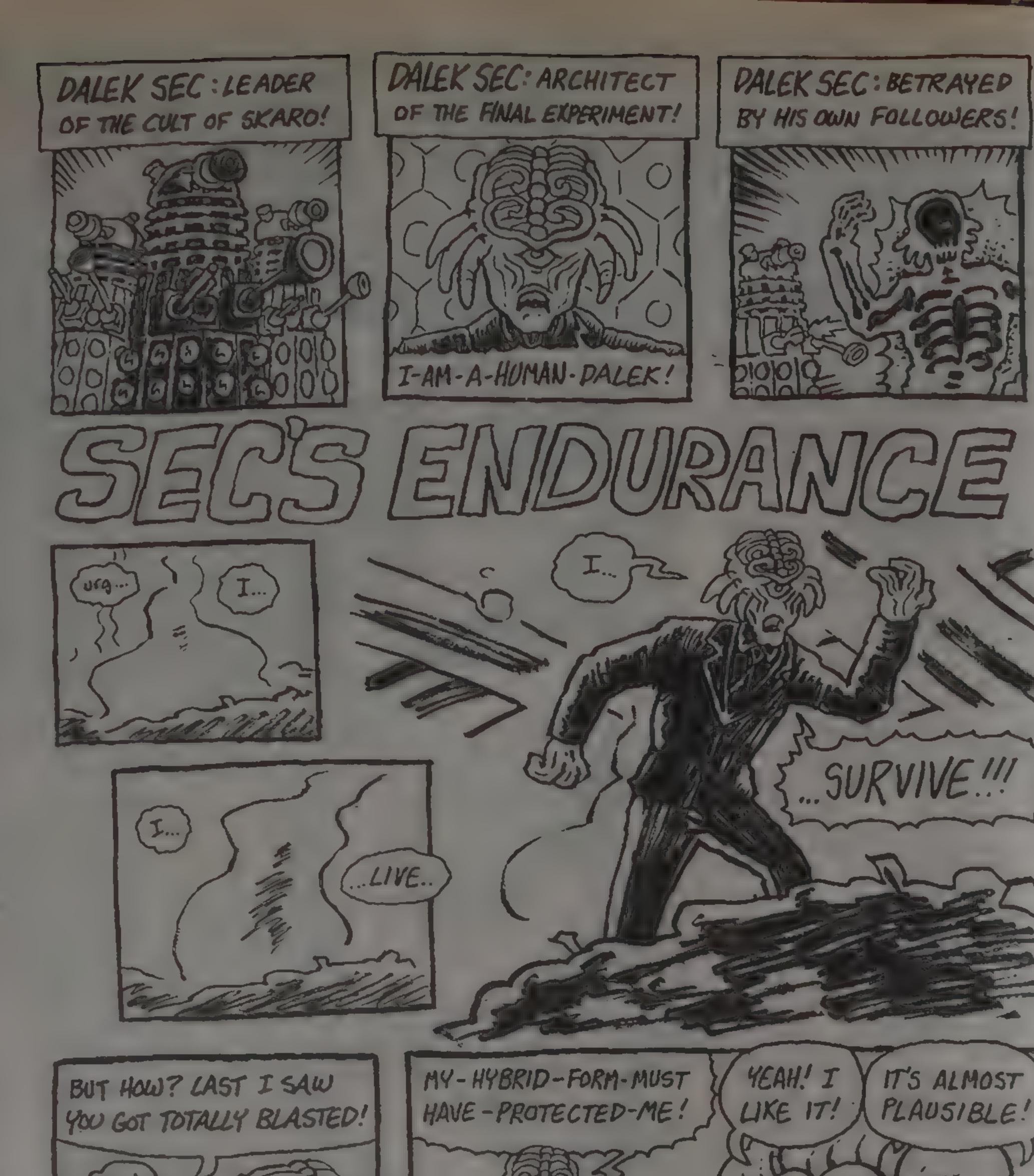
DRAFT At least one of the three Oiler first round picks will be traded.

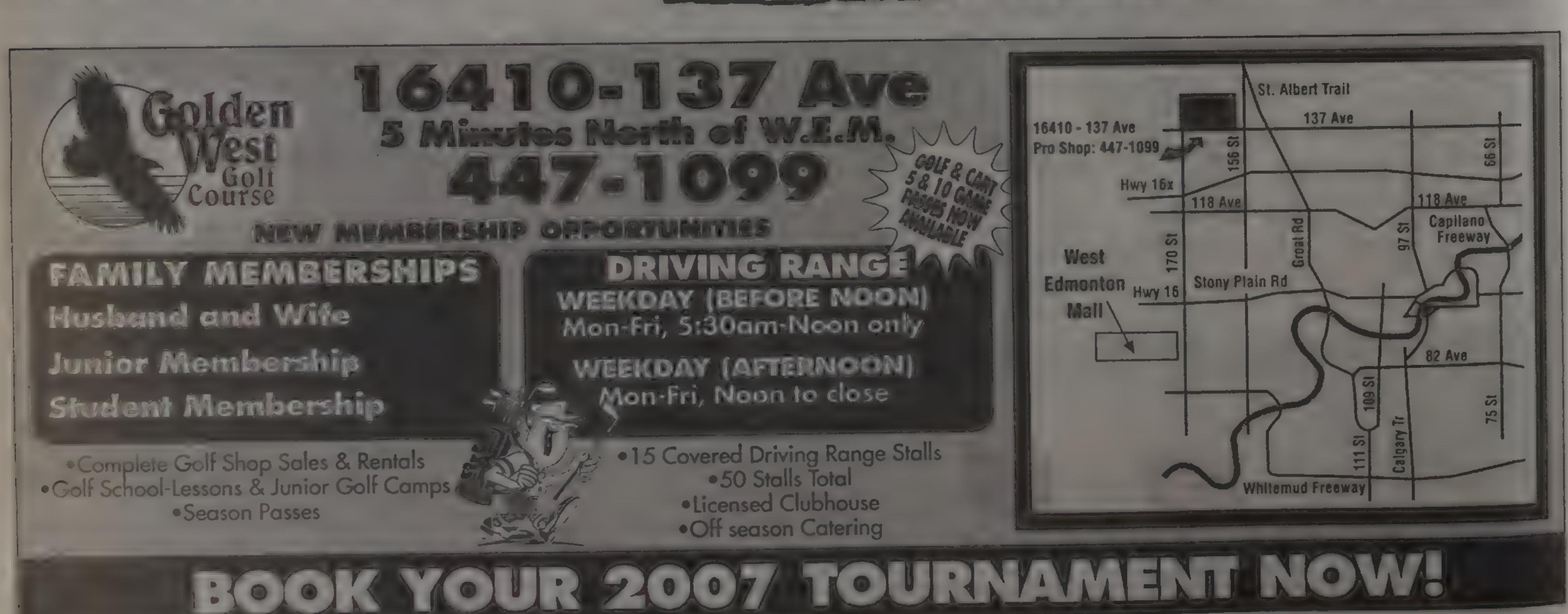
ARENA Every day it looks more and more like a new downtown arena plan is going to surface and the taxpayers will be footing the bill. It really doesn't matter if the money is coming from the City, Province or Feds but, despite what our governments tell us when they spend it for us, it's our money.

HEROES AND HOUSE Is TV getting better or am I just getting easier to impress? Oh wait, American Idol just ended. TV is not getting better and it probably won't. I used to watch A-Team and Dukes of Hazzard and I thought they were cool too. DY

TB: Hey, I have a couple too! Um, opinions, that is, not assholes ...

EX-OILER BONANZA It's been talked about and bandied around for a while now: at least one ex-Oiler is going to get his name on the cup this year. It could be Todd Marchant and Chris Pronger in Anaheim, Dan Cleary in Detroit, Mike Comrie and Dean McCammond in Ottawa, or, if you believe in miracles, Ty Conklin, Jochen Hecht and Jaroslav Spacek in Buffalo, I'd like to see either Marchant or McCammond win, but that would mean that either Comrie or Pronger also winand watching either one of those jerks hoist the cup would be a soul-crushing experience. Detroit is a team of cheapshot artists that I just can't see myself cheering for, and Buffalo really has no chance. I guess that in the end, when the Sens do win (and they will), I'll just have to excuse myself when the cup gets passed to Comrie, go outside and curse the hockey gods. Immature? Yes. Do I care? Not so much. TB







Cosy up to comfort food in a comfy place

KT SCOTT / ktscott@vueweekly.com

here is nothing better than a warm bowl of soup on a rainy day Well, there is one thing h, tter a great café in your own neighto ahood that makes the soup for you.

The Mill Creek Café is situated in an innecuous building just west of The V. hyte Avenue crosses the Mill creek ravine. It is a great place to reet after an invigorating walk through the ravine, particularly a walk in the rain.

The brass bells on the door tinkled as my friend and I came in out of the rain and with our kids, strollers and bags in tow. Our first sight was a display of incredible baking in the display case, which was filled with squares and pies. The banana cream pie looked incredibly fluffy and was piled high with meringue.

As we looked for a place to sit, I noted an eclectic mix of high chairs, low chairs, high tables and low tables. The overall atmosphere was comfortably casual and therefore able to accommodate our sprawling crew. For those dining alone on a quick lunch or snack, I saw an ample supply of newspapers and

Menus hung above the till and the daily special board announced two soups of the day: a green minestrone and a pork, sweet potato and black-eyed pea. Other items such as the Mill Creek salad—explained to me as Greek in a base of cabbage—and the spinach and artichoke dip looked tempting, but the chilly drizzle outside dictated that we needed homey, warming cuisine.

My friend ordered a café latte (\$3.75), a quesadilla with chorizo (\$9.25) and a cup of the green minestrone (\$2). I decided to warm myself with a chai latte (\$3 75), a Reuben sandwich (\$7.25) and a cup of the pork, sweet potato

and black-eyed pea soup (\$2.00). There was a nice selection of teas some loose (the Blood Orange looked especially tempting), along with teabags of fruit tisanes and some European teas.

9582 - B2 AVENUE

WE SAT DOWN at a table near the door I brought my friend's toddler a "yummy cookie" (\$1.50) from the counter to stave off the hungries until lunch was assembled. He definitely agreed with the description of the cookie. (It helped that it was also a very large "yummy cookie.") Very soon our beverages arrived in tall glass mugs. My friend said the coffee was good; my chai was delicately spiced and not too sweet.

The soups followed shortly after. My friend's green minestrone was a subtle mix of flavours: zucchini, peas,

drops on the surface of the soup, told me that the cooks had likely used the pork drippings for the broth. This fantastic base melded with a somewhat sweet broth from the sweet potatoes and caramelizing of onions. Combined with pieces of pulled pork, the whole made for a savoury, very chillbanishing soup.

Next up, my friend's quesadilla was a predictable mix of cheese, onions and bell peppers, accompanied by salsa and tortilla chips. The salsa was a little bland and the chips from a bag. Spicy chorizo sausage distinguished this quesadilla from its plainer cousins, however, and a whole wheat tortilla was a nice touch.

The weather had worked up my appetite, so I immediately dug into my

Reuben when it arrived. The pastrami on my buttery sandwich was sliced very thinly and lightly fried, just the way I like it. The housemade nine-grain bread bookending my sandwich was incredible: it was fresh and hearty, complete with whole grains and visible carrots. Sauerkraut rounded out the sandwich; with a couple of dips into a side of mustard, I was heartily satisfied.

I finished my soup and was getting ready to go when my baby started fussing. As I walked around the restaurant settling the baby, I got a good look at the local artwork displayed on the soothing green walls. Suddenly, plate-sized cinnamon buns stopped me in my tracks. When I asked if they were good, both women nodded emphatically and added that the cream theese on the top was homemade, too.

Our total for lunch was \$28.50 including GST. I couldn't decide on a dessert so I purchased a bag of the nine-grain bread and walked back out into the deluge

to start building my Ark.

If you are in the area, it is definitely worth stopping at Mill Creek to sample the goodies here. If you live in the area, you probably already do. The food is innovative and the baking is spectacular. Even finding parking is a breeze, so you have no excuse not to stop! V



celery and onions combined delicately to create a light, warming soup. There were also a few macaroni noodles thrown in for good measure.

I warmed myself up with my soup while it was hot, and it tasted as good as its description. A rich, satisfying flavour, along with some telltale oil

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M is for the million things Wolf Creek served me

CHRISTOPHER THRALL / dish@vueweekly.com

other's Day brunch is a ritual, its origin lost in the depths of antiquity. Splinters from my wife's family converge from Drayton Valley, Calgary and Edmon-

ton on her grandmother's home in Ponoka for a sociable luncheon in one of the town's posh eateries.

This year, my mother-in-law proposed something special: she had sampled the Easter buffet at the Wolf Creek Golf Club south of town, so she made a reservation to return for a Mother's Day feast.

I generally find golf course fare pricey and unexceptional, so I pulled into the packed Wolf Creek parking lot

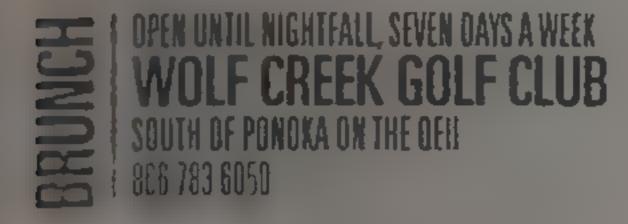


pot far from the imposing clubhouse and ferried our family to the door, parsing gleaming rows of off-white golf carts on our way into the enormous, faux-rustic log cabin.

We met up with the rest of our confidence in the expansive foyer and made a beeline for the restaurant's entry. It was a damn good thing we made a reservation: the place was crammed with families!

rooms was lined with tables, both solid wooden ones with comfortable chairs and folding ones surrounded with collapsible chairs. We were led to one of the latter next to a huge stone fireplace and each of the mothers in our group was presented with a long-stemmed red rose.

I ignored a muted golf tournament on one of the ubiquitous flat screen televisions hovering above us as quick, friendly servers approached immediately with fresh, dark coffee and water. One vanished instantly to collect a pop (\$1.42) for an uncle and an orange juice (\$1.42) for my daughter. I glanced around at the slightly dated fixtures and busy carpet, but then started following a long line of



people with my eyes.

We had chosen the second sitting—a 2 pm reservation—but were among the last to arrive at five after. Easily 50 people waited with varying degrees of patience in a single-file line that stretched along one wall from the impressive buffet spread, then snaked bizarrely around and between tables. I felt badly for the diners who were surrounded on up to three sides by hungry people staring at their food.

"WELL, IT'S NOT going to get any shorter," my brother-in-law quipped and I shrugged as I followed him to join the line. After a while, one of the brighter staffers moved the line to run out into the lobby and the room seemed suddenly less densely packed.

While I waited, I chatted with Wolf Creek's Food & Beverage Manager, Brooke Wiancko, who told me that next year they would cut the crowd down to a far more manageable 160 seats and hold three sittings. However, the line moved steadily and I was grabbing a plate within 15 minutes.

Once I finally reached the spread, I began to understand the \$19.95 charge in what I considered the less-expensive market of rural central Alberta. The selection was staggering.

Five huge bowls of various salads were followed by a salmon platter, an array of shrimp and a stack of crab legs. Chafing dishes full of conventional brunch fare—hash browns, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon—led the way to chicken breasts, pork with asparagus and lobster tails. By the time I reached the carving station and haunch of rare roast beef, I was stacking vertically on my plate.

Unfortunately, I had to skip the station and actually sublet a plate from the dessert table in order

to include some French toast, berries and whipped topping under syrup. I threaded my way back to my table and set down my mound of food, knowing there was no way I could finish it all.

Most of our group had returned, so we toasted the three mothers and fell to eating. Much of the fare was pretty standard, from the predictable eggs to the cool roast beef. However, a few dishes stood out.

THE LEMON POPPY SEED dressing on one salad was light and tangy, while the unexpected Thai flavours of a raw mushroom-broccoli mix caught me pleasantly by surprise. I managed to hold on to half a devilled egg after my daughter discovered the two I had placed on my plate. Despite the mass-produced look of my egg Benedict, the whole was a terrific combination of crunchy English muffin, bacon and tender egg under a less impressive Hollandaise sauce.

I ended up carefully removing the off-white topping from my French toast once I discovered its non-dairy origins. Instead, I dined with gusto on the combination of artificial maple syrup plus thawed blueberries and raspberries on the crisp, cinnamon-laced treat.

My favourite dishes were products of the kitchen's deft hand with pig. The bacon was just this side of crispy and held a wonderful, smoky flavour, and the pork cutlets were amazing. I couldn't identify the buttery sauce, but the asparagus stalks accented the lean pork beautifully.

As I predicted, I left about a third of my binge selections on my plate after sampling everything. Though I knew better, I ambled up to the dessert table after one look at my wife's succulent creation from the crêpe station. A warmed fruit mixture was folded inside its light shell and served with a daub of vanilla ice cream.

I wasn't up for a crêpe, but I grabbed a wedge of adequate banana cream pie and a yummy carrot cake square from the seriously picked-over selection. I noticed with a grin that the huge platter of fresh fruit was largely untouched.

Overall, I have to admit that I was impressed. The logistics that packed the room will be better thought out next year, and the array of food was stunning. The staff, mostly much younger than I expected, were friendly and helpful rather than the sullen or surly teens I've come to dread from dining in Alberta's incandescent labour market.

I'd like to see what Wolf Creek can do when it isn't swamped with special-occasion diners. I think I'll be even more impressed. •





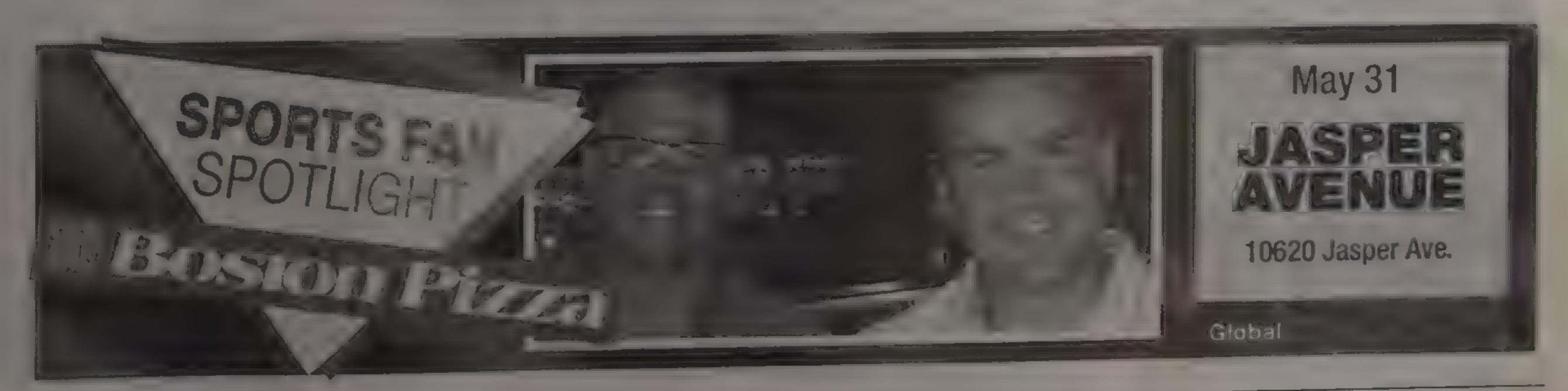




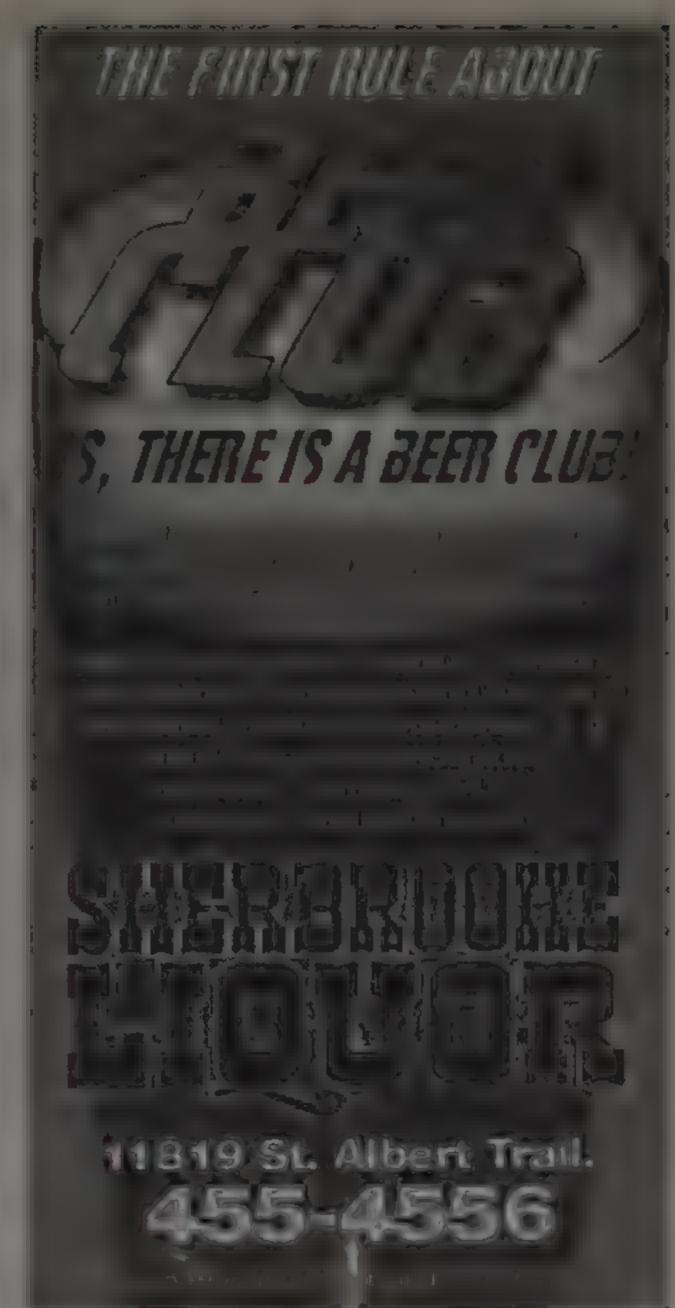
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High-octane shiraz promises to age well

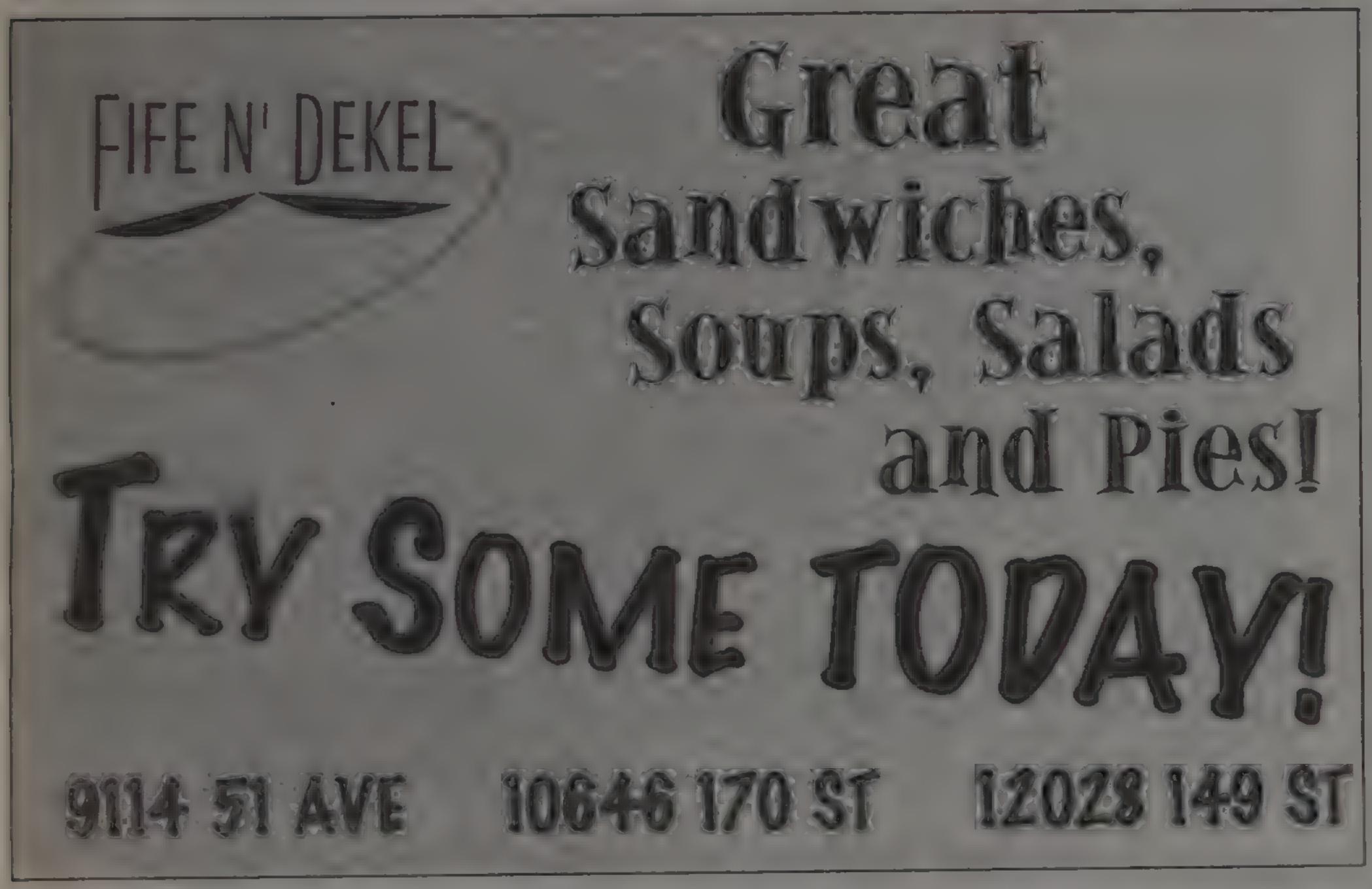


2005 SCHILD ESTATE SHIRAZ SCHILD ESTATE, BAROSSA VALLEY, AUSTRALIA, \$30

Sometimes it is fun to drink a rich, highalcohol wine. I wasn't sure what to expect from the Schild Estate Shiraz, but it came very well recommended. So I threw caution to the wind and picked up a case. Though it is very young, I felt it was a good time to give it a try. This cherry red-coloured wine emitted a slightly overpowering nose with strong tannins, to be expected from such a young wine with a high alcohol content of 14.5 per cent. There was a strong scent of licorice in the nose that had me intrigued.

The taste started strong, with an excess at the front of the palate, but it soon gave way to a warm flow that evolved throughout the taste. Plum flavours became more evident as time passed. With time and patience, this wine offered nice, consistent flavours.

I look forward to trying another bottle in several months: this wine was well worth the price.



AND THE RUNNER-UP IS ... Victory in Vue Weekly's Golden Forks is partly its own reward. Our winners passed the evening wear and swimsuit competitions, did their best in the talent contest and answered our hardest questions. Each restaurant learned in our televised broadcast that Edmonton's erudite gastronomes have decided that theirs is the best this city offers in their category.

More material rewards follow as wave after wave of curious diners visit to find out what is so amazing about the spot.

However, with great power comes great responsibility. Vue Weekly demands a great deal from the winners of our Golden Forks Awards: they must tour the country, giving speeches and raising awareness for their charity of choice. They

have to serve as an example to young restaurants everywhere who dream of one day wearing a Golden Forks tiara.

Actually, all they really have to do is stay open.

Unfortunately, one of our winners this year could not fulfill their responsibilities Miss Mexican/Latin American, El Rancho, has shut its doors. As the rules that I made up just now clearly state: If a Golden Forks Award winner can not stay open despite the thronging crowds of starving diners outside their darkened doors, the Award shall be presented to the venue with the second-highest number of votes

It is with great pleasure that Vue Weekly crowns Edmonton's new Mexican/Latin
American favourite, recently-reviewed
Acajutla! This place of sea turtles and
sugar cane also offers terrific Mexican and
Salvadorean cuisine on 107 Avenue
Swing by for a pupusa and congratulate
them on their unexpected victory.

Dish Weekly spills the beans on culinary happenings around town. Got an event an announcement or some unsubstantiated gossip? Email dish@vueweekly.com or fax 426.2889.





Follow the bikers for a morning-after cure

FILA JAMESON / ella@vueweekly.com

"I'm sorry I let you drink so much last night."

I was on the hunt for crispy smoked like I let Sunday morning after a publicularly rambunctious night at the local pub, when I remembered xwreck's. I hadn't been there in ages, but I fondly recalled a rather hefty plate of hangover food I'd had there a couple of years ago.

rant and lounge, parking a respectful distance from the row of motorcycles along the like dominoes along the hangout, a gathering spot for those who think, "two wheels good, four wheels bad."

ered where bikers take their mothers for breakfast. The crowd was an eclectic mix of leather-clad diners and sweet old ladies. Sons wore do-rags, mothers wore kerchiefs—it was all a

XWARECK'S

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little surreal.

I chose a table in the corner and nodded in favour of a bottomless cup of coffee (\$1.50). The menu boasted all-day breakfast and a large black-board toted the morning special:

\$8.95. After a nearby table of hungry-looking men ordered four steak and egg specials, the couple next to me, fresh from church, ordered "the usual": two eggs over easy, dry brown toast and tomatoes instead of potatoes.

ordered piecemeal from the à la carte breaklast options: French toast (\$3.95), side of bacon (\$2.75) and a side of hashbrowns (\$1.50). All three are chemically designed to soak up residual rum in the digestive system, rendering it harmless. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

I last ate there. Instead of two smaller spaces, the lounge was now one large, open room accommodating 20-plus tables. Sunlight drove in through the south-facing windows,

making the restaurant brighter than I remembered. Supertramp played tunes from Breakfast in America, which seemed apt.

The walls were hung with Harley Davidson memorabilia, beer signs and the usual bar paraphernalia. Photos of bikers and their bikes lined the far wall, most of them posed in front of the restaurant. The karaoke guy was hauling out his equipment from the night before, loading huge speakers into his waiting truck. (Be warned: at XWreck's, they take their karaoke seriously.)

My server, clearly familiar with the signs of alcohol overindulgence, brought a huge glass of cold water along with my mug of coffee. I alternated between sips of strong black coffee and mouthfuls of cool, refreshing water. The couple next to me politely averted their eyes.

My food came heaped on an oversized ceramic plate: four strips of bacon, two thick slices of French toast and a pile of chunky potatoes. Deepfried and over-salted, I couldn't wait to fork some of the sinful carbohydrates into my waiting mouth. Skins still on, the hash browns were decadently delicious. How could anyone trade them for tomatoes?

I drizzled syrup on the French toast and cut off a small piece of eggy delight. It was exactly what I needed, a therapeutic gastrointestinal rumsponge. Vive la France: merci pour inventer ce remède spécial.

The bacon was cooked to a brittle crispness, rendering it un-forkable. I picked up a piece, placed it on my tongue and let it linger. It was as I had imagined it would be: smoky, thick and altogether corrupt. In other words, perfect.

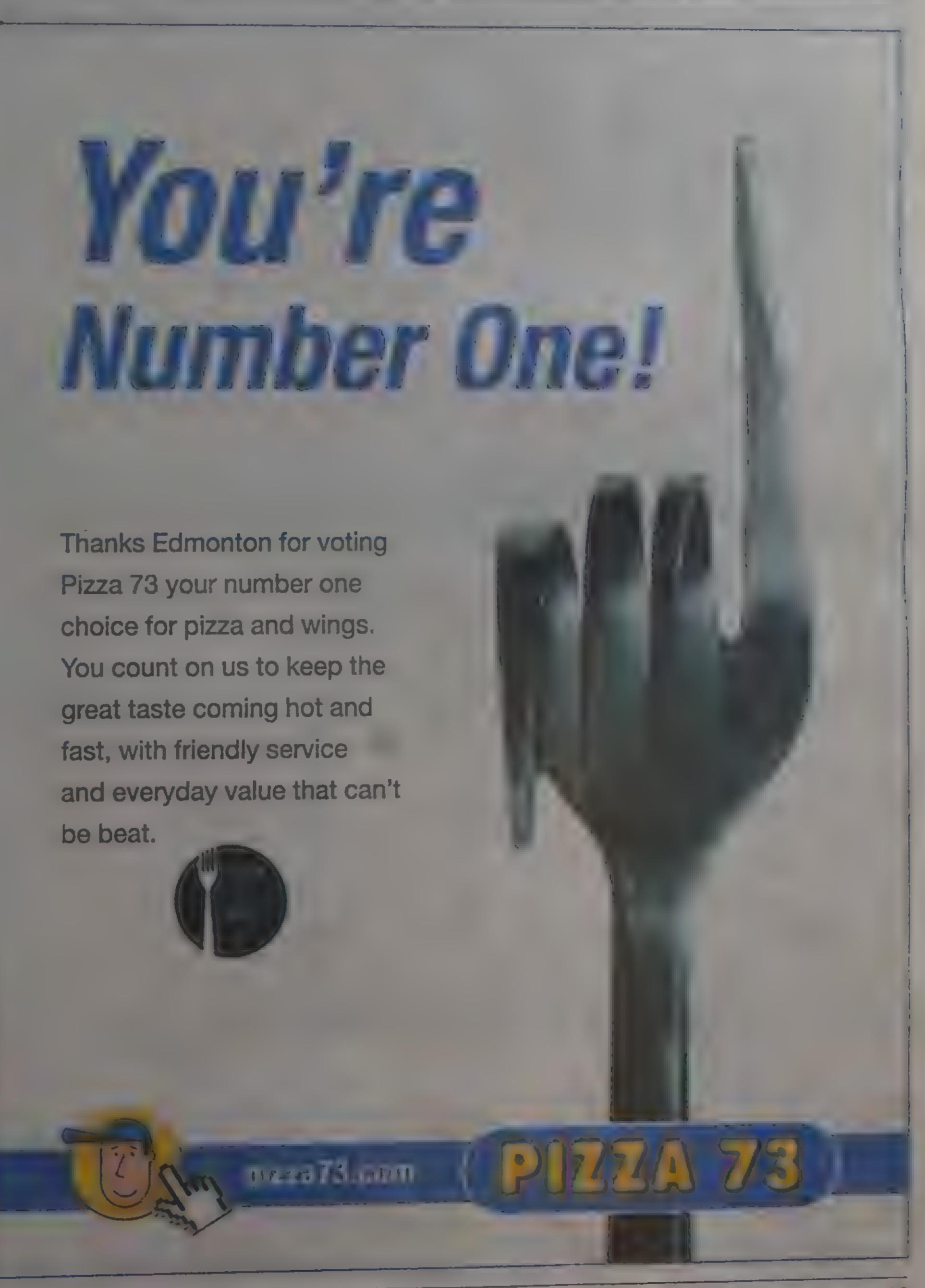
I finished every last morsel on the plate, and accepted refill after refill of coffee as I sat complacently in my seat. I was beginning to feel like myself again as the miracle cure worked its magic on my digestive system.

All right, so it isn't scientifically proven, and at best only temporarily relieves symptoms. Still, for under \$10, breakfast out will always be my hangover cure of choice.

XWreck's wasn't responsible for my binge the night before, but it was largely responsible for my recovery. For that, I was grateful. Perhaps next time my mom's in town, I'll treat her to breakfast out. All I need is a do-rag. ▶















All photos by Dee Montie

When cycling in New Zealand, watch out for gorse, of course

IT 'THE JOINT / Erran Server meekly.com

The eting the Tasman Sea Hear Zealand's north coast in the Frot week of December, in the Latinan again—but in the Louth coast of New 1976 1979

Cycling if it cost to the was pleased with the interest. Not because of the interest but because of the interest that I made on the charge, I made in my

NEW ZEALAND

goals and expectations as I cycled the islands, and the evolution of both my daily routine and my reasons for travelling in general.

Crossing New Zealand by bicycle in just over five months required a less-than-demanding pace. Yet it's a wonder I made it at all considering that I had no travel plan upon my arrival in

Auckland. With my mountain bike and trailer still in factory packaging, I walked off the plane knowing I wanted to tour the islands by bike and, along the way, ride some bike trails, do some backpacking and some surfing. Where to go and how to get there, I had no clue.

first time that I pulled my overloaded trailer. From downtown Auckland I cycled north out of the city on the

seemingly wrong side of the road. Following a straight road was easy; negotiating intersections and roundabouts was borderline suicide.

Initially I yearned for my panniers, but I quickly grew to love my trailer. But not until I learned how to pack it properly. During my first week, my trailer became partly detached from my bike while riding down a moderate hill. A few sparks later and in the ditch, I learned how to properly pack a bicycle trailer ... and better secure it

to my bike.

In the early days of my travels, I was struck by the alarming strength of the sun and the steep grade of the hills. Every New Zealand weather forecast that I saw included a UV index, and every forecast rated the UV level as "extreme." The best part however, was the accompanying text "reschedule outdoor activity outside the hours of 10:00 to 17:00." Truly, I

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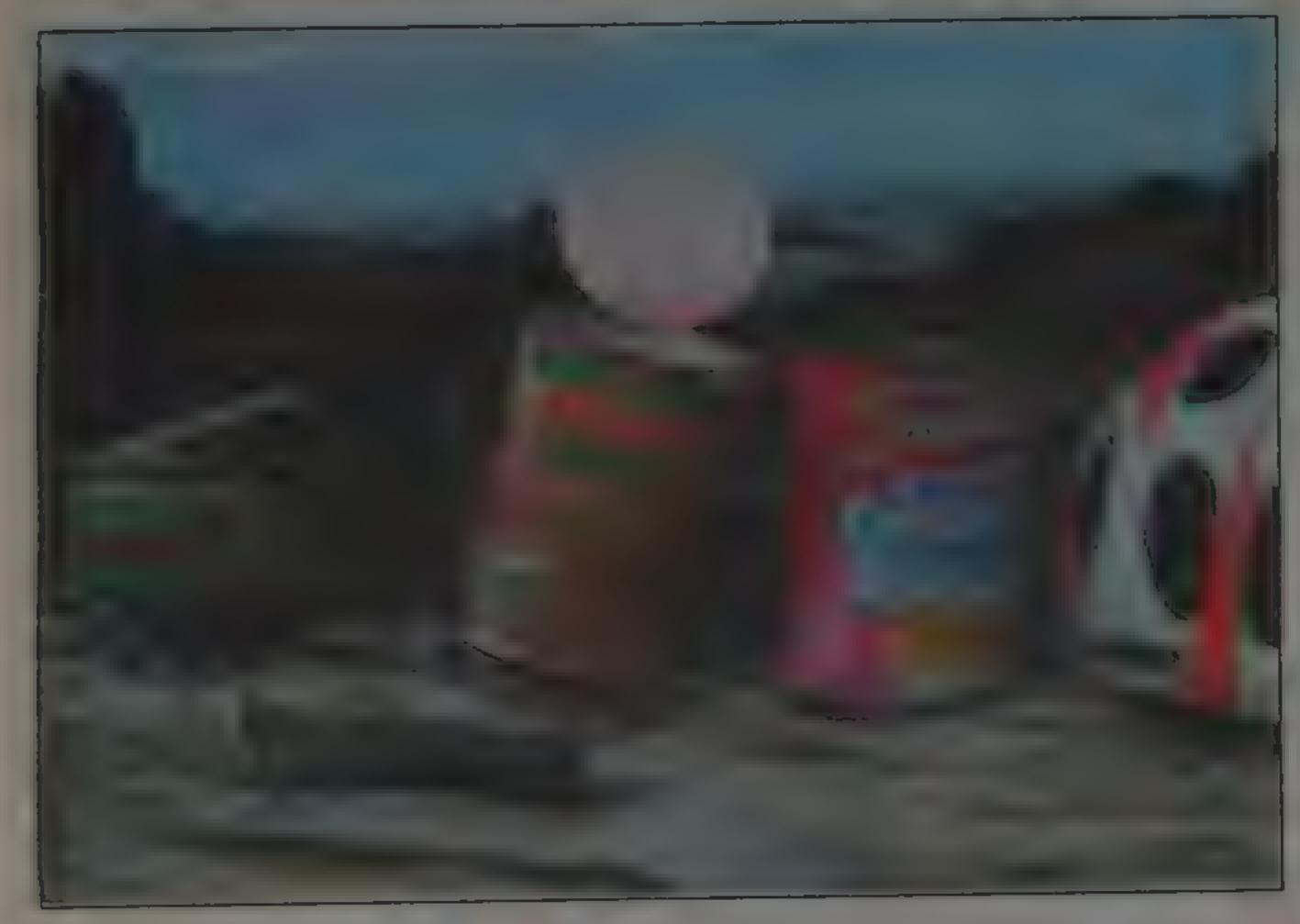


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CYCLING NEW ZEALAND

DENTEDIATI FROM PAGE 20

could feel my Canadian bacon burn in the sun—and it scared me.

With covered arms and legs to protect against the sun's rays, cycling over the bloody hills became a sweaty affair. But it wasn't the hills that were the problem (at the top of every hill was a vista worth the climb), it was the grade of the roads. Their extreme steepness matched the extreme UV rating. So shocking was the grade that I often found myself praying for switchbacks several times a day, and that's not right from the saddle of a

bike.

In the absence of a plan, the incredible UV and the difficult cycling unsettled me early on. I found myself feeling unprepared and lost. This was made worse by my poor cycling fitness. My body couldn't take me where my brain wanted to go. But I learned to travel more slowly, resting my overworked legs and knowing that my fitness would improve.

If I was a pork chop when I began my trip, then by the time that I cycled around the East Cape of the north island six weeks later I had become, at least, a svelte pork chop. The East Cape is largely devoid of people because it is largely devoid of industry. Farms and forests occupy the land. With grand coastal vistas, it is the perfect place for cyclists.

I jumped on my bike each morning eager to make as many kilometres as I could before getting turned into a liver spot by the sun. Much to my butt's dismay, I pretended that I was a cyclist again instead of just a cycle tourist, and covered the distance of the Cape in three days (which would have taken me seven at the pace that my trip began).

ONE OF MY "loose" goals for my time in New Zealand was to ride some mountain bike trails and compete in the Karapoti Classic mountain bike





race. I found some fantastic trails in Whangarei, Rotorua, Picton and Nelson. One sunny day in Nelson, I was riding a great trail until I ran into some gorse. Gorse is like thistle crossed with razor wire that has somehow developed a hatred for mankind. I can handle being cut and scraped some, but what I thought was unnecessary was the damage it did to my bike—three flats.

With weeks of riding in my legs and the gorse experience survived, I was ready for the Karapoti Classic mountain bike race. For the first time in an event, especially a mountain bike race, I had no expectations. I just wanted to go hard but to survive; to bend but not break. And that's what happened for the first half hour. At that point, my ride was interrupted by the most unsettling "crack" I had ever heard. About then my handlebars became unfixed from my bike. I came to a stop at the side of the trail to discover that the cap attaching my handlebar to my stem had split in two. My race lasted for about 30 minutes but my walk out lasted over two hours.

While cycling, I often think about my place in the world: where I have come from, including the people and places from my past that remain speual to me; and where I am headed. At

know where I am headed in life and that is no fun to think about, so then 1 think about food. After all, cycling is hungry work.

Lonely places like the East Cape may be great places to ride, but they are tough places to buy groceries. Come supper time along the Cape, I wandered into a small shop just after the power had gone out, but that was hard to tell by listening because the buzz of flies around the fruit sounded much like the buzz of electric coolers. The best that I could do for supper that evening was a can of salmon, a can of beetroot and a can of vanilla creamed rice.

Each night after settling on supper, my next priority is finding a place to sleep. New Zealand has a wonderful network of inexpensive hostels ("backpackers" in kiwi slang) that make travelling fun, comfortable and social. If a shower is in order, if the weather is poor or if it just feels like a bed would be better, I stay in a backpacker.

But who wants fun, comfort, or chit-chat all the time? Among other things, my trailer is loaded with a tent, and most of the time I free camp—that is, camping in school yards, roadside parks or other public spaces. In all my nights free camping, my tent has never been bothered.

occupancy by one.

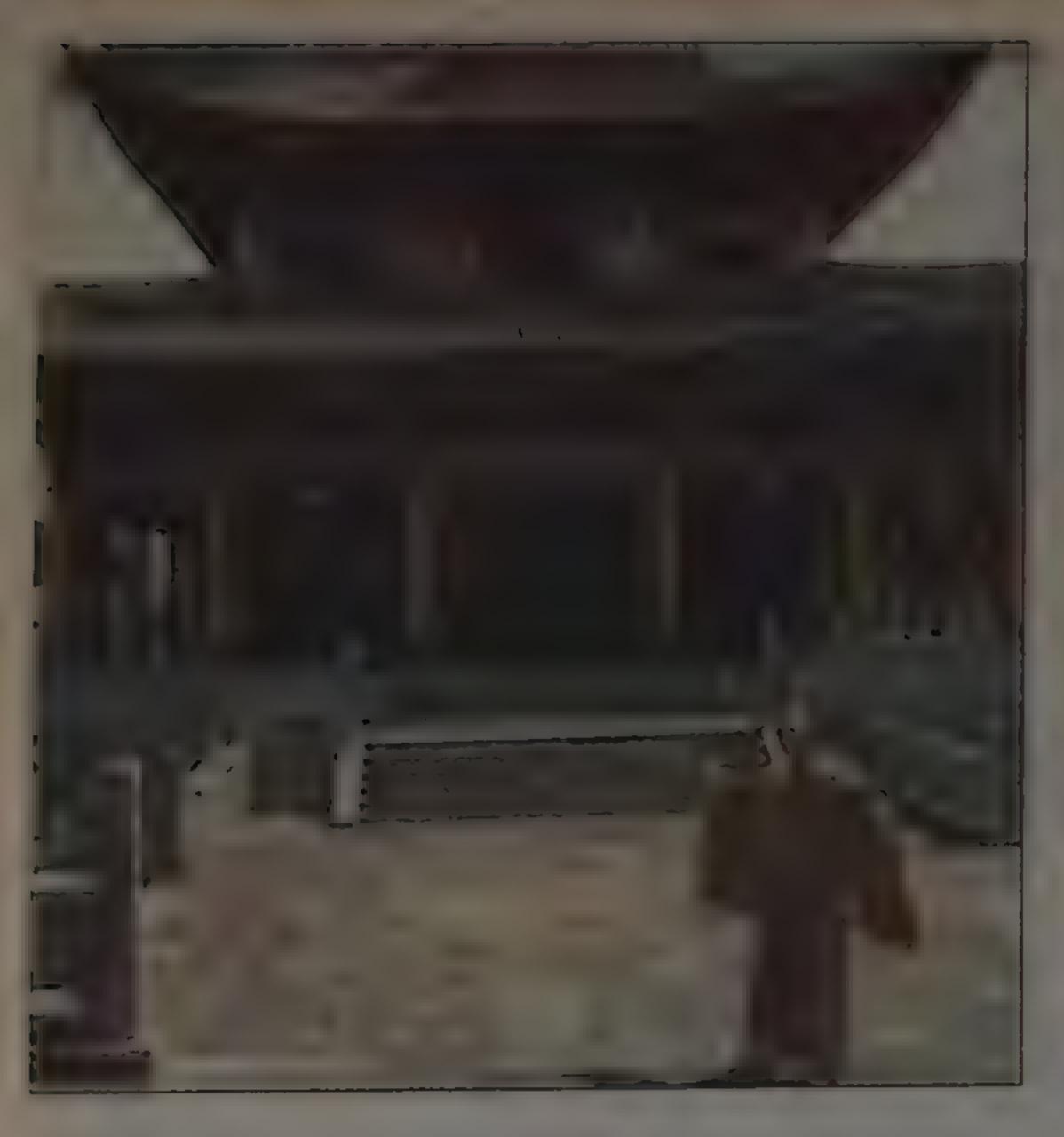
Two months ago I upgraded to a two-person tent because I have been travelling with Dee, whom I met here. Cycle touring solo is great, but cycling with two is better. Since Dee and 1 began riding together, I have never enjoyed a journey more (thanks Dee)

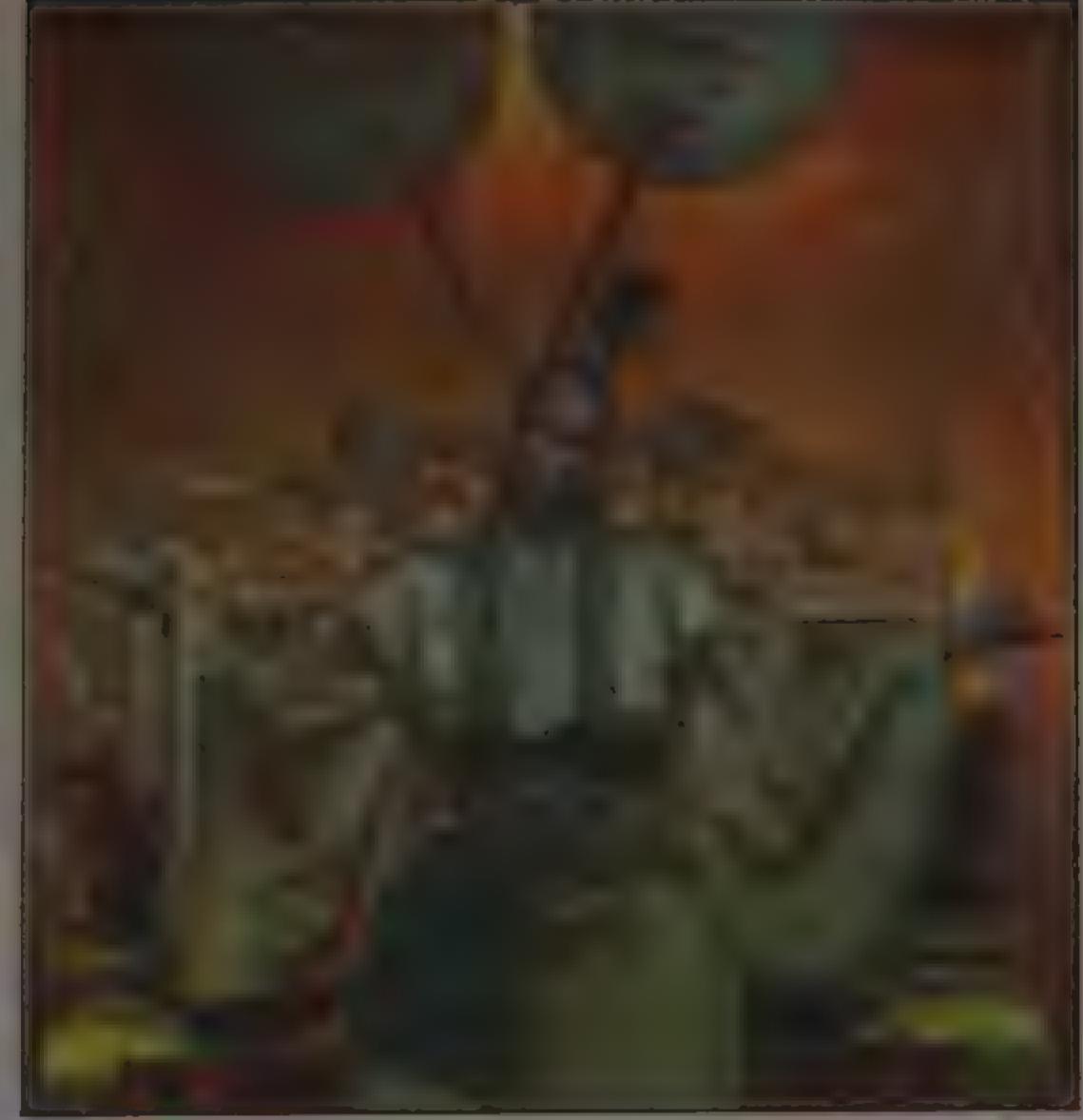
The sight of the Tasman Sea off New Zealand's south coast hasn't ended the trip. Dee and I are pedalling our way through more of the south island. It's true, there are hills everywhere in New Zealand, but I can think of no better way to see the country And there is no better feeling than the view earned by pedalling to the top of a New Zealand hill. V













Discover your inner warrior

KEITH WYATT / keith@vueweekly.com

I was intrigued by the martial arts. Perhaps I owe my interest to some echoes from a past life, or perhaps it had something to do with the ninja-flick explosion that occurred during my more impressionable years—a cinematic heyday that saw the release of such high-kicking thrills as Gymkata and American Ninja I through IV.

Regardless of where my affinity for the arts stems from, the fact remains: a kung fu warrior stalks stealthily inside of me ... and the time had come to unleash it.

My heart pounded with an almost sickening combination of exhaustion and elation as my cycling partner, Alex. and I hammered the final 20 kilometres of our approach to the mountain town and martial arts hotspot of Dali in southern China. Blazing down the expansive and eeri-

ly under-populated six-lane highway, with snowcapped rocky mountains on the left of us and a massive glimmering lake on the right, we streaked past a caravan of horse-drawn vegetable carts as the straw-hatted drivers lazily whipped their tethered beasts of burden. Continuing on we passed an ancient walled city with a breathtak-

EDALI, CHINA

ing brick barrier rising 10-metres high and a three-tiered pagoda whose segmented spires reached the sky.

And 15 minutes later, after killing kilometre number 20, we realized that the walled city was in fact Dali. In appreciation of the poetry that says we should finish our trip as lost as we started, Alex and I proceeded to laugh our asses off. Then we returned to the ancient lakeside city, whose wood-

shingled rooftops and cobblestone streets conjured up movie-picture images of old kung fu villages. Now, my training would finally begin.

Despite my fascination with Asia's ancient fighting arts, two things had kept me from pursuing them. The first was my passive-aggressive personality, and the second, perhaps more decisive reason was my respect for the ancient ways.

To me, the martial arts are about more than just looking slick as you open up a cool and refreshing can of whoop-ass on some thug with a wispy moustache. To me, the essence of the arts has always lain somewhere in the attitude; in the individual and unfathomable knowledge that allowed any badass master of the arts to face danger and the possibility of death with complete and utter fearlessness.

Suspecting that the attainment of such knowledge would surely require a lifetime of dedication, I resisted the

urge to possess those secrets so that I could pursue the more accessible and entertaining knowledge gleaned from broken hearts and recreational drug use. But, now, having aroused the commitment and accumulated the courage, I was ready.

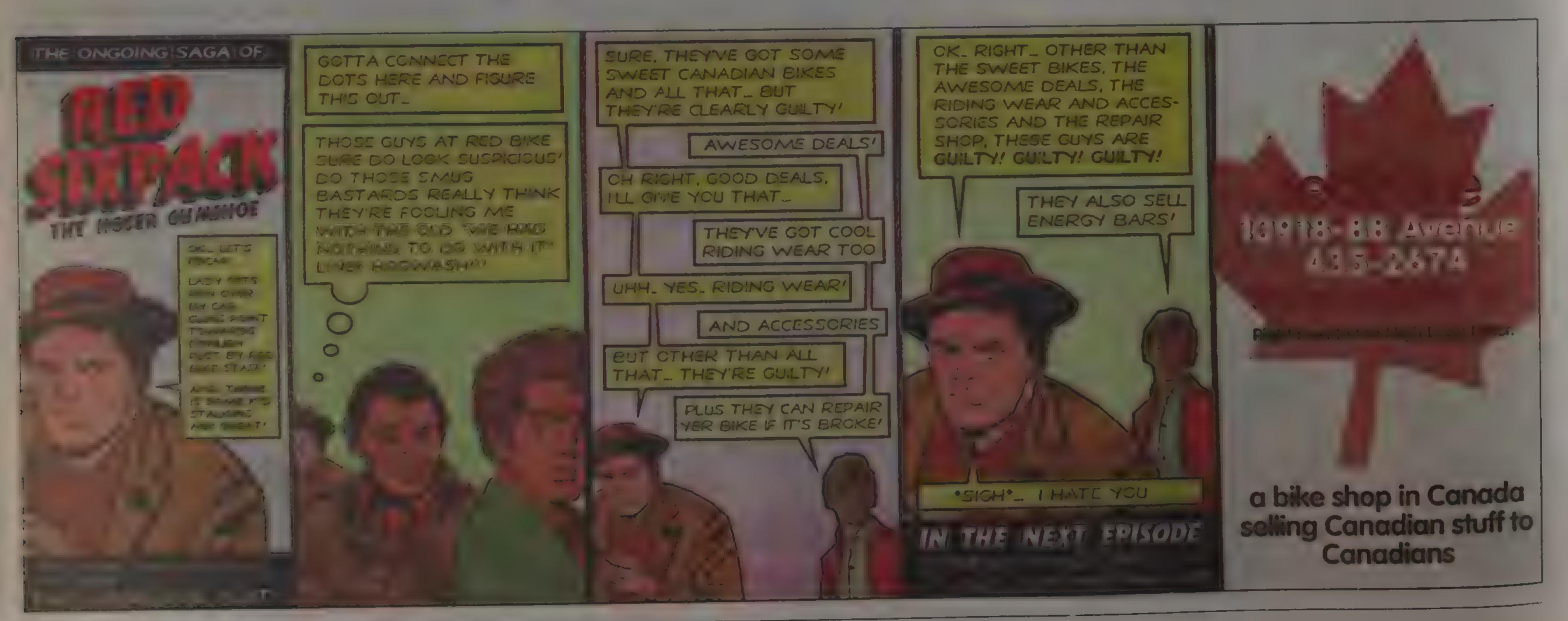
As fate would have it, a freak encounter with a foreign exchange student resulted in my discovery of the proverbial needle-in-the-haystack. Though I was prepared to clamour through caves and scour mountain-sides in search of a bonafide master of the arts, I would have to look no further. Adam Nilsson, a Swedish martial artist who had been training in Dali for the past three months, had done the legwork for me. He'd sifted through the fakes and phonies, the inexperienced and the egotistical, and found the gem of Mr Zhang Ming Lhang.

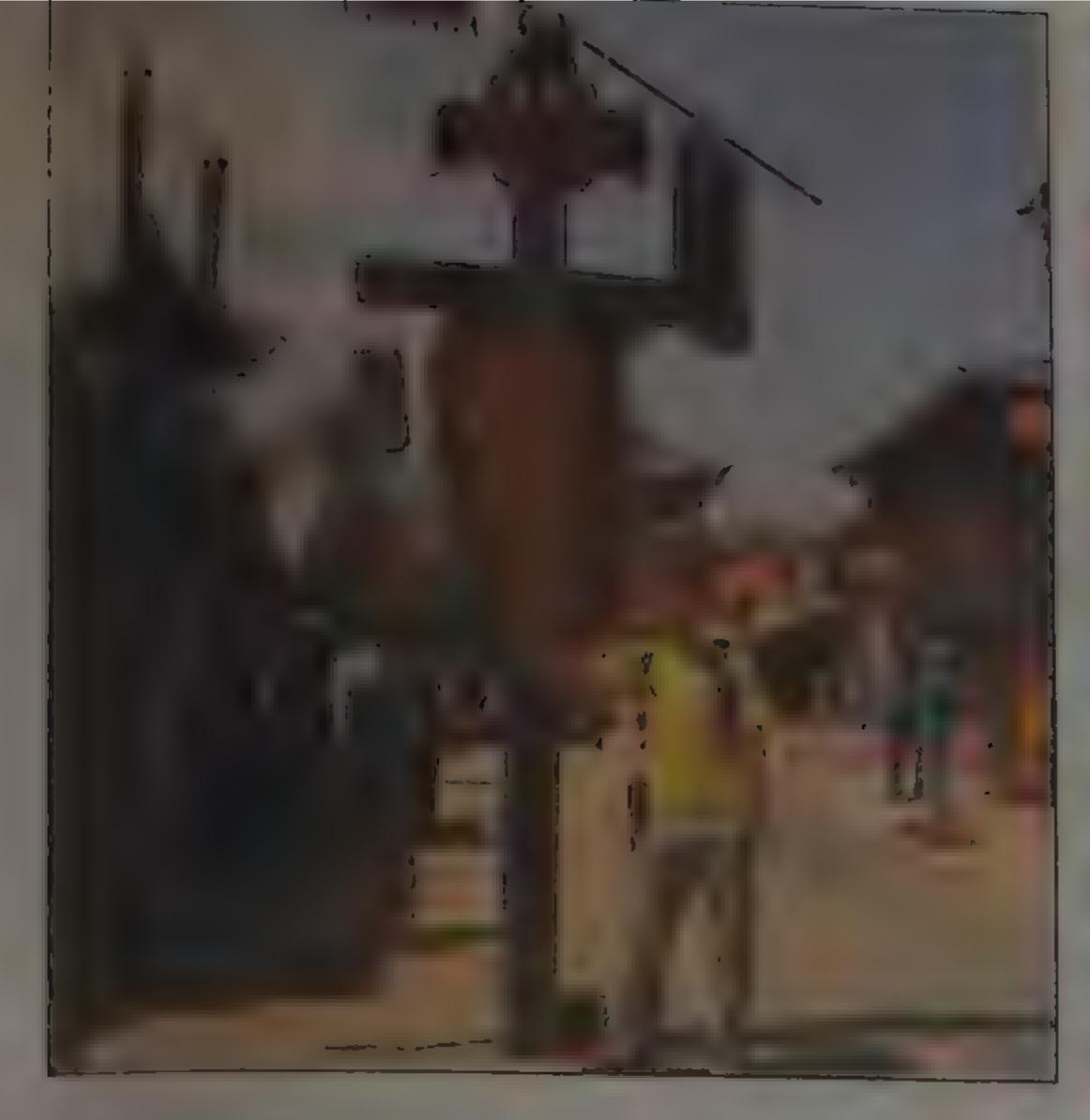
SMALL OF STATURE, large of heart, Mr Zhang is as quick with his smiles as with his swords. At 58, he has over 40 years of experience in various forms of kung fu, including Shaolin, Bagua, Tai Chi and Xingyi. And when asked what art is the most powerful, he echoed, with a thumbs-up for emphasis, what I had been hearing all across China, "Tai Chi. Okay!"

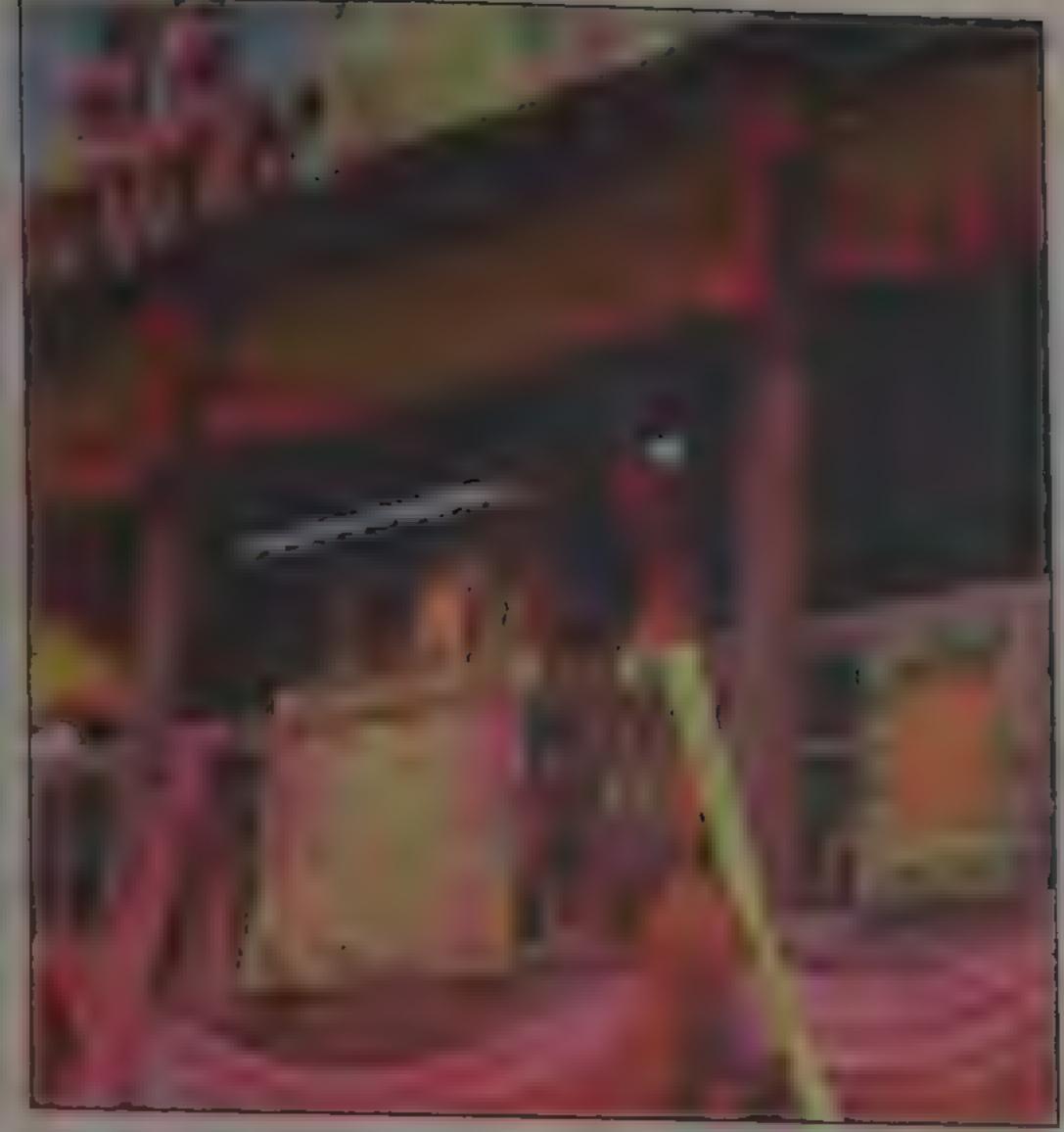
Though I had a vicarious familiarity of Tai Chi through the experiences of friends, I knew little of its power or appeal until I tried it myself. And when I finally did, it blew my mind

Just as Shaolin had developed from Buddhist philosophies and practices, so too Tai Chi had been born from those of Taoism. And where Shaolin teaches its practitioners to see (and overcome) pain, Tai Chi teaches adherents to see (and revel in) perfection

Divinely expressed in the Taoist symbol of the yin yang, Tai Chi teaches its practitioners to understand through physical movements the innate perfection of, and balance









between, opposing energies. By coming to that balanced place again and again within the practice, over the years it eventually begins to infuse everyday existence until the practitioner gradually becomes balanced; like Mr Zhang, who dances through the forms, his movements softer than a sheet in the breeze while his face is hard enough to hammer nails. His actions lethal, while his heart is light. As I watched him flow it occurred to me that this art, if any, might give me a glimpse of that warrior's peaceful fearlessness.

Of the many styles I could have trained in, I was immediately drawn to the liquid whiplash action of Tai Chi Chuen, with its unique and devastatingly cool combination of fast and slow actions. My goal for the month was to learn three variations of the Chuen 36 form; the first with empty hands, the second with a fan, and the third with a sword. And in order to achieve this I would have to practice five hours a day for an entire month.

Intermittently, I awoke each morning around seven, to either the mad yet mellitluous, cackling of my guesthouse's cooped rooster, or to the slaughterhouse yelps of the neighbours' six-pack of Pekinese. Whichever it was (hands down the rooster was better), my day would begin with a two-hour practice. This included Tai Chi, Qi Gong and some light yoga-like stretches. Then in the afternoon (my favourite part of the day) I would meet the master Mr Zhang for two hours of instruction, and then finish off with another hour either by lamplight or moonshine.

OVER THE COURSE of the month this schedule enabled me to get the most out of my time with Mr Zhang, whose sessions had a two-fold purpose; the first of which was to teach me the movements (or foundation) of the form. Just as an actor must learn their lines before they can begin to "live" inside their character, so too would I have to learn Tai Chi's actions before I could discover the heart of the art. By dedicating most of my personal practice time to learn the motions I could then use my time with Mr Zhang to pursue the second, more important land much more difficult) purpose of

our sessions; which was to move beyond the execution of the actions .. and to let the Chi flow.

As there were no words Mr Zhang, or anyone, could pass on to help me achieve this, all I could do was trust I knew the actions well enough to let go of my fears and simply follow his flow. And miraculously, it was enough. By letting go of my thoughts and allowing my body to flow with Mr Zhang's liquid churning of the chi, the memory of the movements moved from my mind and into my body and being.

Simultaneously we flowed through the from, a simple circling pivot of our

feet causing ripples to swell into waves as they climbed up the body, then whiplash-crashed with the strength of a Tsunami, through our hips, shoulders and fists. Kapow! Then back to the soothing, soft, gentle flow

A moment of pride allows my mind to recognize a misplaced foot and a stuttered step, but remembering the words of the Taoist master, Lao Tsu, I realize it doesn't matter, for "true perfection seems imperfect, but is perfectly itself."

REGARDLESS OF THIS TRUTH, Mr Zhang stops me mid-form with a smile on

his face, then flows through the action I'd just completed with a grace that makes him seem like he's underwater. His whole body pivots with the spinning of his arms, and I'm thinking "wax on, wax off" as he motions for me to come forward with a punch and announces, "attacka defend."

"blades" and the outcome is as ugly as someone sticking their tongue in a spinning batter-beater. My elbow is bent, and my shoulder is jarred, as I'm tied into a helpless knot. And all I can do is laugh as I realize the dead ly application of my master's beauti

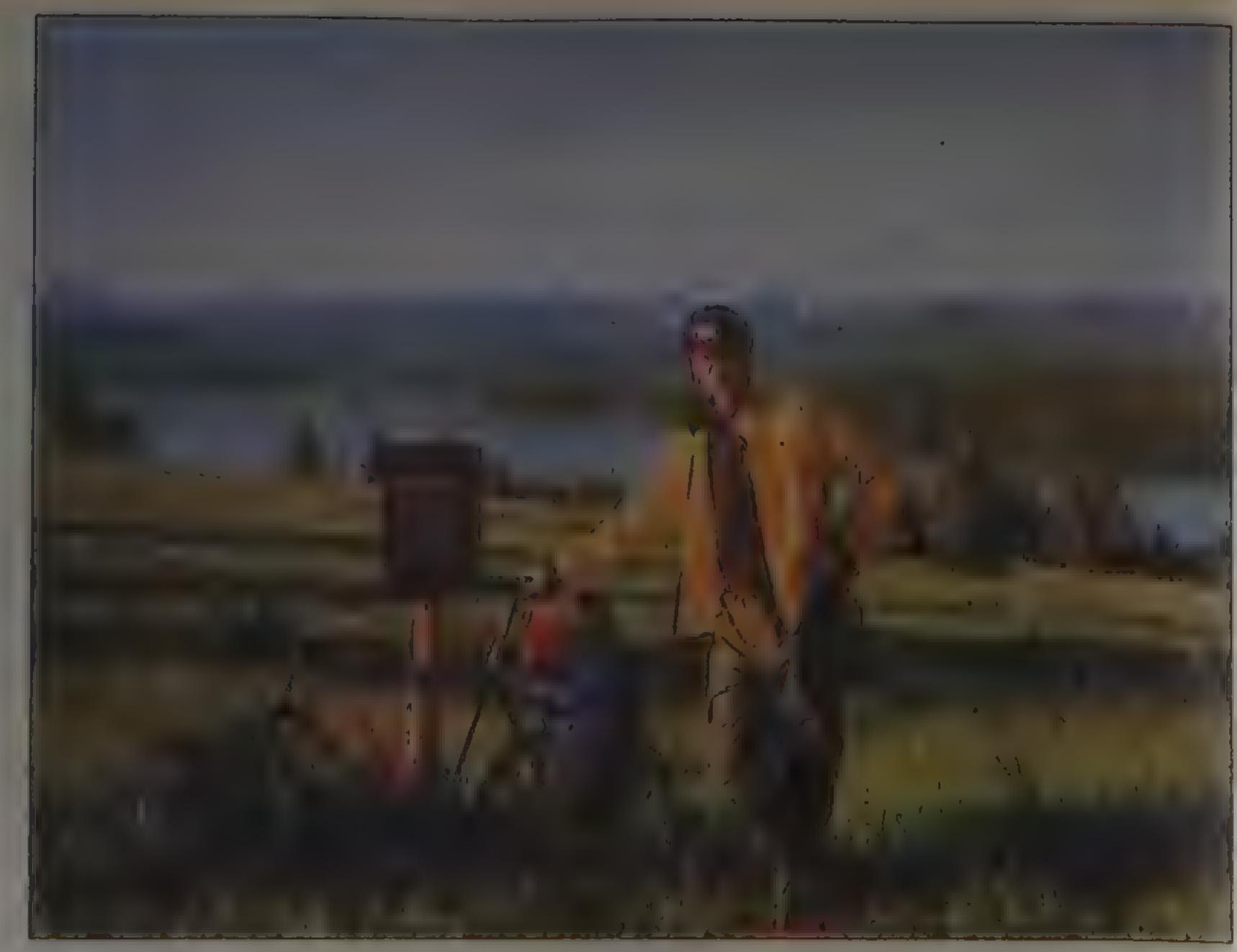
ful dance

Mr Zhang chuckles happy that I've learned something from his example and motions for me to continue my practice. "Slowly. Slowly." He coaches me. "Build the current. Tai Chi sword Go on. Go on."

As I flow through the form (lost in the unending movement) my swerd flashes in the sunlight. A beam cutthes my eye, illuminating the moment and as the current takes me through the next step I am swept away by the perfection of the instant, and am given a glimpse of my place ... and







Big Sky is bicyclefriendly, if a little odd

DAVE BUCHANAN / daveb@vueweekly.com

British Columbia have made me somewhat cynical; I get honked at regularly by pick-up-driving yahoos for whom the very idea of a bicycle on their road is an annoyance, if not an affront.

I assumed Montana would be no different, given its similar landscape and hands-off rural conservatism. So I was pleasantly surprised when two friends and I went on a cycling trip around Missoula last June and encountered some of the most progressive, bike-friendly conditions and people I've ever met.

Our starting point, Missoula (population 57 000), in the west-central part of the state, is one of the centres of Montana's bike culture. Everywhere you go in this pretty little mountain city you see people riding bicycles and bikes locked up outside buildings. Not only that, most of the bikes are beaters, well-worn commuting machines that don't offer much temptation to thieves. In other words, these bikes are not for show; they're for actually getting around.

So how did this bike culture develop here? For starters, this is home to the University of

* WOMTANA

Montana, so students make up a sizable portion of the population here. In addition, there's the draw of the vibrant mountain biking scene. Missoula sits at the hub of five valleys surrounded by small mountains—ideal terrain for mountain biking. Riders come from all over to try the offroading action.

But the big thing in these parts is road-riding and cycle-touring. It turns out that Missoula is something of a mecca for North American touring. It's the home-base of the Adventure Cycling Association (ACA), a grassroots non-profit organization started in 1973 and devoted to inspiring people of all ages to travel by bicycle It boasts over 40 000 members and employs over 30 people in Missoula.

THE DAY WE ARRIVED, we dropped by the ACA offices, located in an old church. This seemed appropriate given the quasi-religious significance of ACA for so many cycle-tourists. Several of ACA's recommended cross-country cycling





tered with photos of cycling pilgrims to an around the world.

After paying homage ourselves, we sat down with Julie Huck, Memularship and Development Director at ACA. She explained her job, shared some of her favorite Montana cycling circuits (the Beartooth Highway, Pioneer Mountain, and the Yaak Valley) and gave us tips about cycling in the Missoula area. But looking around the humming office while she talked with us, all I could think was "what a job—getting paid to talk to people about the wonders of riding bicycles!"

On our way out of the office, after adding our Polaroid to the wall, we encountered a couple of groups of grinning pilgrims heading back to their loaded touring bikes with bellies full of free ice cream. They were beaming with the joy of believers.

OUR FIRST DAY of cycling took us to the 60-mile Perma loop about an hour's drive north of Missoula, mostly in the Flathead Indian Reservation. This pretty circuit follows a series of quiet roads through the sleepy little towns of Perma, Paradise and Plains. Our first clue that something was up was a roadside sign warning motorists to "Watch for Bicyclists." Never seen one of those in Alberta.

Driving across the state, I had been somewhat alarmed by the 75-mph speed limit on most highways. But that morning we noticed almost all the vehicles that we encountered were not only courteous—as in giving us a wide berth—but downright friendly, waving and signaling enthusiastic thumbs-up.

We stopped for lunch that day in the tiny village of Paradise, Montana All jokes about the name aside, it has a kind of derelict charm. Almost all of its small, peeling trailers have tiny gardens out front, a few flowers, and maybe a flag. No-one was surprised to see us cycling. This is just what people do in Paradise, I guess.

Our day of riding ended, by design, at the village of Hot Springs, a sunbaked smattering of slummy shacks and trailers sprinkled with a handful of hot pools. The town motto is "Limp In, Leap Out." We stumbled into Camas Hot Springs, a hilarious little spot consisting of an unattended tiny concrete hot pool inside a barbed-wire compound, complete with Astroturf picnic area and an honour box demanding \$5 per person, "No Exceptions!" All that was missing was some cold beer.

Days two and three of cycling took us to the Flint Creek Ramble, a 120mile loop through beautiful ranch land around and over a small snowcapped range of mountains an hour's drive south-east of Missoula. We started at Gold Creek and followed the frontage roads that parallel interstate 90 and wind through a series of small cowboy towns. We turned away i. the law at Galen, as said, de olate place, where the only buildings are a low security prison for "youthful offenders" and a scuzzy bar, the "Dugout," with the "Du" burnt out of the neon sign in front.

mountain pass, we hit a solid wall of

punishing wind. What had started out as such an easy day suddenly became a grind. Just before the mining town of Anaconda (formerly Copperopolis), we encountered several individual cyclists on road bikes also fighting the wind. One of them explains that there's a century ride (as in 100 miles) that day, and they are some of the stragglers.

After battling wind and gravity for several more hours we finally made it, just as darkness was falling, to a

campground at Georgetown Lake, a popular cottage area at the top of the pass.

THE NEXT MORNING we began with a long, fast descent into Philipsburg, a charming little historic mining town just off of the main route. After a feed, we strolled the main drag peering in windows, ogling the salt water taffy in the candy shop.

Later that day, just outside Drummond, we stopped at the Ohrmann Museum and Gallery, beside the home of retired rancher-turned-sculptor/painter/prophet Bill Ohrmann. The sign along the road saying "Usually Open" gets our attention, but it is the gigantic metal sculpture of a mastodon beside the driveway that really lures us in

Bill himself strolled out to say hello, and, after commenting on the beautiful conditions for a bike ride (like everyone else we meet, he claims to have been an avid cyclist in his day),

place was filled with dozens of bizarre, wildly original paintings part childish folk art, part allegorical warnings about environmental apocalypse and human stupidity

Back in Missoula that night, on our way out of town, we passed a pawn shop with two large neon signs in the window advertising GUNS and BIKES Now that's Montana in a nutshell unapologetic redneckism and enlightened bicyclemania. Who knew?

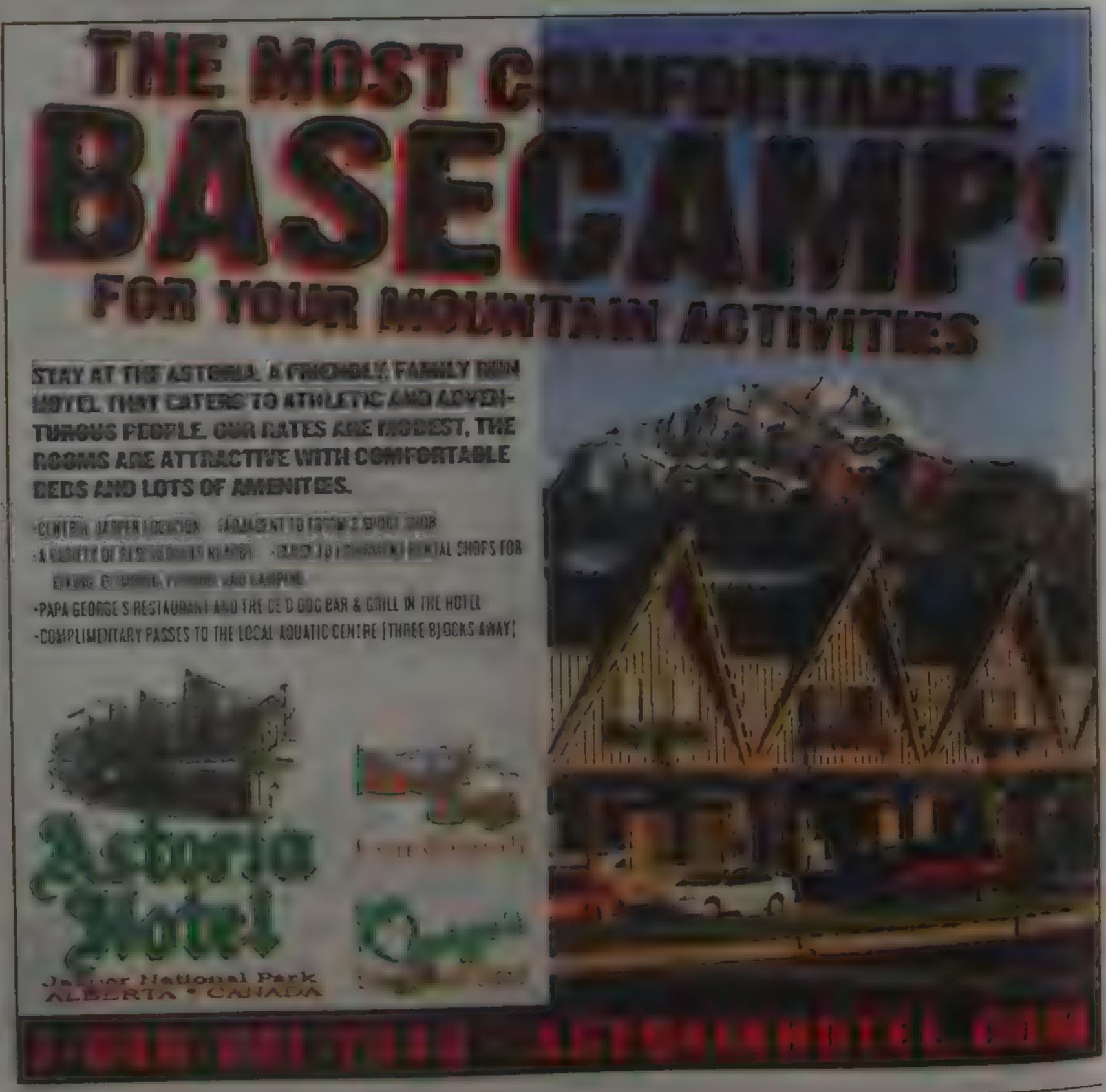


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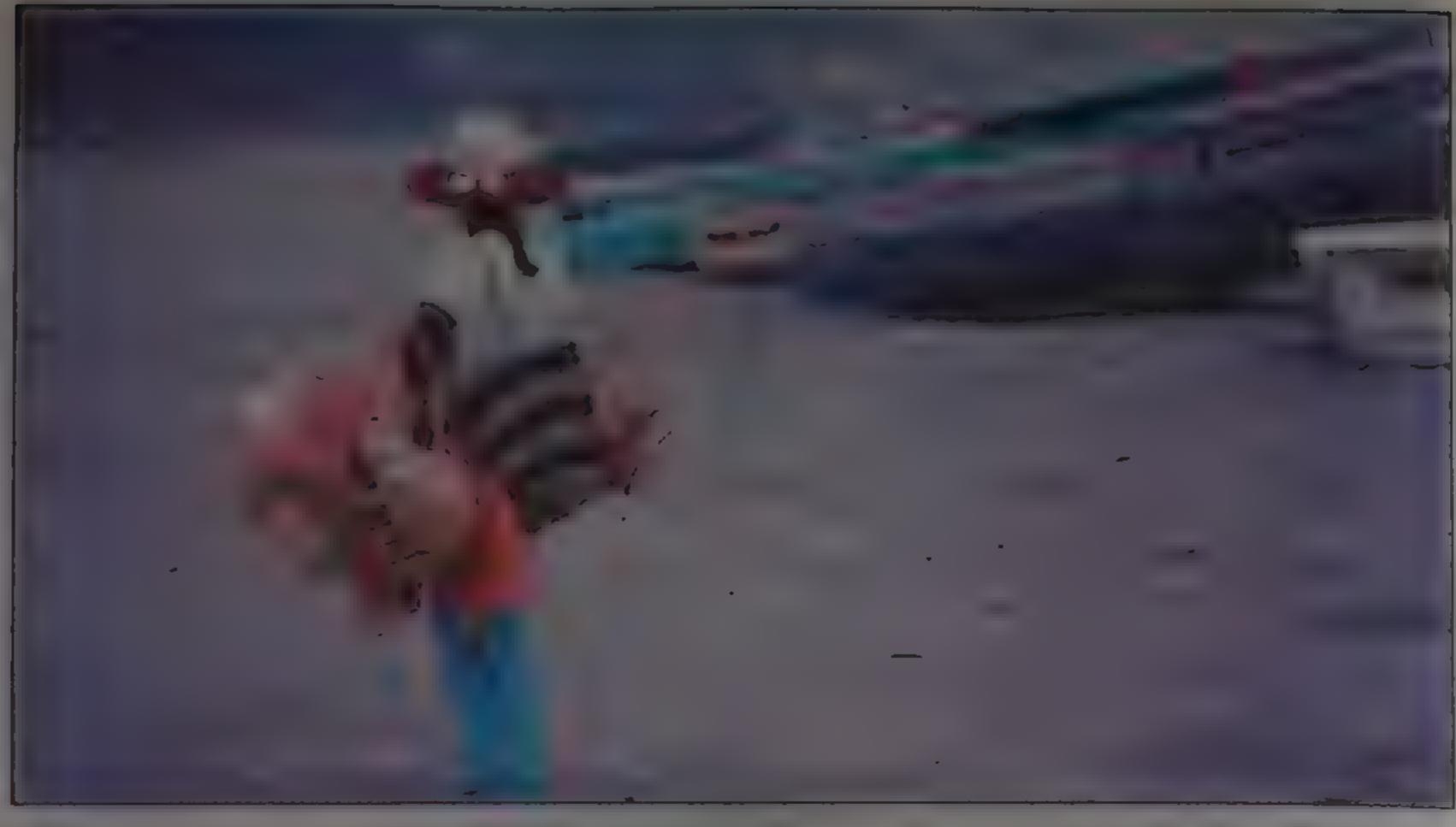
















Hang loose in the 'muy tranquilo' surf of South America

CITAL WISE AND IN CONTINUES WESTERN CO

often hear the word "tranquilo" used to describe the rhythm of the town

Located on the central coast of Ecuador, hundreds of kilometres from any cities, it is the kind of place where it's easy to slide into a hedonistic pattern of surfing by day and partying by night. The stray dogs are friendly, the waves are usually mild but still surfable, and a friendly mix of travellers and locals engage in a caiparihña- (a mix of cheap "fire water" alcohol, lime juice, sugar and ice) fueled party on any day of the week.

The best spot to surf in Canoa is on a sand bar created by a small river trickles through town. When I rived, I was worried about the posty of a lot of unfriendly bacteria e local surfers congregated just the river mouth every day. I is ' join them on the sand bar to keep my head above water. for me, Canoa is known as a ood place to learn to surf and the wes were the perfect thing inexperienced surfer gain ome confidence. Consistent swell t that a two-hour session was igh to make my shoulders arrant a break for some by the beach, and, withgetting consistent n the waist high waves

two weeks in Canoa went by quickly, and before I knew it, the

time had come to leave. I had managed to avoid getting sick from the water but I had caught a bug that made me want to surf more in the warm waters of South America.

THE NEXT TIME I found myself with a surfboard in hand was in Henri Pittier National Park on Venezuela's Northwestern coast, sharing a sip of rum in the back of a well-decorated bus (think low rider, school bus edition) with my old friend Joel and a rowdy group of beach-bound Venezuelans.

Although Venezuela is not known for its surf, I had bought a snake-adomed Local Motion surfboard from a tattooed local named Alejandro in Caracas. When I asked him where to go to use my new board he told me that "the best beach in the country are in Cuyagua!" and proceeded to give me a detailed account of the beautiful girls that went there every weekend. Despite the fact that Alejandro didn't even mention the waves, I took his word and headed for Cuyagua.

After a white-knuckle ride through the cliffs of the largely uninhabited coastal mountains, we arrived in the small village of Cuyagua. After renting a hotel room in the middle floor of a rusty old mansion, we quickly departed for the beach, a half-hour walk along a dusty, heavily mosquito infested dirt track.

Winding through giant stands of bamboo, we encountered an old man with a machete standing beside a

muddy river, lobbing rocks at something in the water. About 50 metres up, a dozen children jumped off a big rock into a small eddy. The farmer's target, a two-metre long, cream-colored snake, scurried its way through the water and disappeared into the underbrush on the other side. We were definitely in the jungle.

At the beach, tents huddled under the palms high on the beach, and music blared from a collection of SUV's. Pelicans dipped across the crescent of white sand as short, fast waves ripped through the murky bay The water was crowded with hun-

SOUTH AMERICA

dreds of people, ranging from a gray-haired surf bum on a long board to a young woman in a fluorescent pink g-string splashing around on a boogie board. Needless to say, waves were pretty tough to come by on the first day. Having to drop in way later than I normally would in order to stand a chance of getting a wave, I spent more time getting washed over the rocks on the bottom than standing on my surfboard. Joel didn't fare much better and after a few hours of punishment, we packed up and decided to wait for the crowd to disperse

By Sunday afternoon, nothing remained on the beach except piles of garbage left by the campers under the palms. There were only five people in

the lineup and the swell had petered out, leaving few rideable waves. All but one of the dozen or so restaurants along the beach had closed and, upon returning to our hotel, its owners were leaving for the week and asking for payment for however long we intended to stay. We paid until Tuesday and searched the town for food. Fresh cheese, stale bread and cans of tuna packed in oil were about all that was available at the small corner store. By Tuesday, Joel had stripped two fins off his board after catching a rock, and we decided to leave town. Cuyagua had turned from a beach party to a ghost town and greasy tuna was all that was on the menu. At least we had seen the jungle.

STILL NEEDING TO GET some surfing done in Venezuela I made the long journey east along the coast to the tourist destination of Playa del Agua (beach of water) on Isla de Margarita, a four-hour ferry ride from Puerto la Cruz on mainland Venezuela.

Joel had returned to Canada, and I found a nice, air conditioned room for \$25 a night, in a brand new hotel owned by an Englishman named John. John didn't speak any Spanish and didn't seem to like the red-shirted "Chavistas" (supporters of Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez) even though they cleaned up the garbage on the local beaches. It was definitely a different world from the jungle of Cuyagua.

The place to surf on Isla Margarita

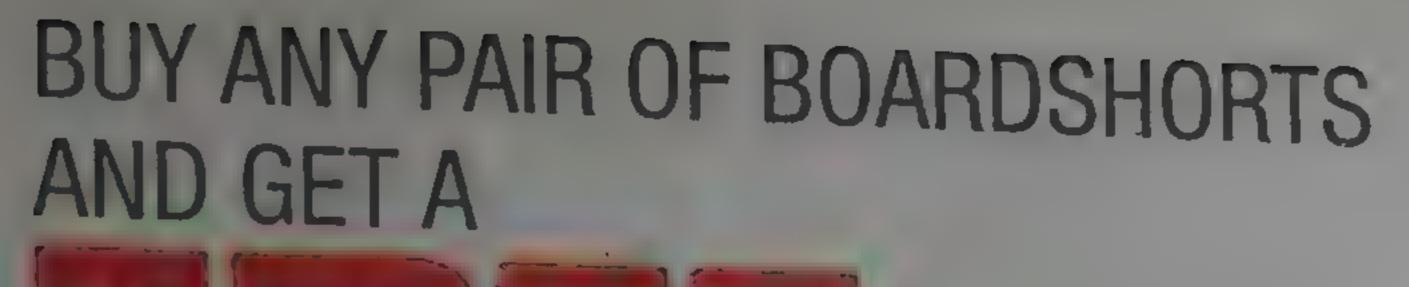
was Playa Parguito, a 20-minute walk around the rocky point to the right of my hotel. It was a bit more crowded than Canoa, and sitting in the lineup on one of the better afternoons towards the end of my stay on Margarita, I was struggling to catch waves

About 20 people were surfing, but one middle-aged pot-bellied man suriing with his four kids was dominating the lineup, cutting in front of me every time a decent set rolled in. Clearly he didn't like the gringo in his water

"Go surf over there," he motioned to a small shoulder that was breaking for about five metres then dying out. I stood my ground and paddled towards the shore a bit, trying to put some distance between myself and "dad." After a five-minute wait, I got rewarded and pulled into a nice little right hander. My day went from frustrating to elating in an instant as I cul across the face of the wave, making a slow turn towards the lip and splashing back into the water as the wave closed out in the shallows.

Paddling back out in nothing but a pair of board shorts, the sun warmed my back. The smell of frying empanadas drifted over the water from a shack on the beach. Behind me, whitewash met steep sand rolling away to a patchy horse field and the sloping pyramid of a small volcano. A few beet-red European tourists lolled on the beach, sipping beers in their Speedos. It was, without a doubt, tranquilo. V





WHILE QUANTITIES LAST





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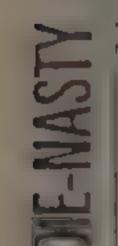
West49

THEATRE: TEENS @ THE TURN! 35

DANCE: ROMANY BLUES / 36



Winning traitor does not Minsky his words



DIRTY LAUNDRY

It's playoff time for the Die-Hards! Coincidentally, Cheryl Oogachaka, trophy wife to Goalie Hogie, thinks that her husband might the man for her ... especially since her boyfriend ran off with bartendress Laurel Canyon, And Doris Excellente, wife to team Doctor Beuno Excellente, doesn't know whether to love her husband or deport him.

After a long playoff run, team Captain Derrick Capilano still hasn't showered and Hogie was having a hard time situator and the state to Mone tréal. So they talked about their wives; Derrick reminisced of the time he and Jamie argued about children after she confronted him with blatant evidence of his latest infidelity, and Hogie brought up the time Cheryl spoke whimsically of her mysterious past Ex

Even though all of the action was in Montréal, Dr Excellente didn't go Total Committee of the contract of the contrac in front of their airport ride, Laurel and Cheryl. Ex-Coach Mitzie Doobie didn't go because she had been drinking all afternoon; team owner Ty showed up to drive her to the airport and found her smashing ouzo bottles

Turns out the Die-Hards' ex-young hotshot, Dwayne Mińsky, is Captain of the Montréal Canadiens (and secretly dating Margaret Trudeau). Regular team practice led to Minsky gaining a 4-0 lead on his former teammates. Durng mermits on Goach Pr. 3 Bull' Dance tried in vain to understand com-LaFemme's French during 1191. 8.: 0:4 317 er 180 up 08 ng ra Can to mart,

reriod, the Die-Hards sang distract Minsky, knowing he song, and tied the game

Sites and lafter hooking freily talked to · · · · · · · · babies who ... despite the

Terrick walked in ex in their ' ir losing ... espeating. Then every-'s to hear Cheryl ning a nun

· Habs are in Edmonvo of the playoffs. w

From Cradle to Stage are one acts to follow

DAVID BERRY / david@vueweekly.com

nyone who writes plays in this city will tell you that the hardest part isn't so much getting the idea, or finding its structure, or even fleshing it out into a workable bit of art-it's finding a place to put it on.

The sad reality is that even in a city with Edmonton's myriad outlets for new work-everything from the Fringe's blind lottery draw to the festivals and workshops devoted entirely to new works-establishing yourself on the scene can be something next to impossible without a couple big breaks.

So when recent Fort McMurray expat Kristen Finlay found out about From Cradle to Stage, the Walterdale's initiative to not only produce a new work, but also spend a year developing the play with the help of one of their directors and a dramaturge from the Alberta Playwrights Network, it didn't take much convincing to get her to pull a play from her catalogue and try to take advantage of a rare opportunity.

"As a writer, you really don't have many opportunities to get to see your work produced, and as many plays as you might have on the shelf, I don't think you're ever quite as excited about them as when they go up on stage," Finlay says of getting to premiere Pieces, about a mother suffering from dementia and reliving her life in her own head while her daughter struggles to come to grips with her external behaviour.



| MON, MAY 21 - SAT, MAY 28

FEATURING PLAYS BY KRISTEN FINLAY, KATHERINE KOLLER, PHIL KREISEL

WALTERDALE PLAYHOUSE (10322 - 83 AVENUE), S12-S14

"The opportunity is just huge, and you get a lot of confidence through the whole process, too. As a writer, you never really know if what you're doing is good until other people see it, and everyone here has been very supportive and positive with everything."

FINLAY'S PLAY WILL join two others, Katherine Koller's Perdu and Phil Kreisel's The Travelling Nude-about a lonely dog-food store clerk and a controversial small-town art teacher, respectively—as the inaugural oneacts in what the Walterdale hopes to make an annual affair.

Though she admits that she's unsure of exactly what will happen with Pieces now that its year of lavish attention is coming to an end, she hopes that audiences will be moved by a play she admits she was proud of even before it went through the Walterdale's treatment.

"I like it because I really got a chance to tell two stories, one about how the mother struggles to find herself in what was probably a time of transition, and one about figuring out how to deal with losing a loved one who's still right there in front of you," Finlay explains. "Ultimately, 1 think it's a hopeful play-you see inside the mother's mind, see why she's acting and saying the things she is that don't make much sense le you, but are actually providing glimpses into that person that's still in there somewhere." W

After the Fall, there's a surreal Miller and Monroe

DAVID BERRY / david@vveweekly.com

ritting down with Stefan Dzeparoski to discuss his upcoming directorial thesis, Arthur Miller's After the Fall, you begin to understand exactly why they call it a master's degree.

In a 20-minute conversation that would have been dizzying if Dzeparoski wasn't so meekly eloquent, talking in an excited but hushed tone, he outlined his thoughts on integrating film and theatre, what technology means for memory and mind, the personal role in the political and historical, why he thinks Arthur Miller will be rediscovered and how Miller and ex-wife Marilyn Monroe-who's avatar figures prominently in the largely autobiographical play-represent opposing gods to North Americans.

Impressive as it all was, Dzeparoski has had something of an advantage: he first studied the play, which

AFTER THE FAL DIRECTED BY STEFAN DZEPA WRITTEN BY ARTHUR MILLE AFTER THE FALL

DIRECTED BY STEFAN DZEPAROSKI WRITTEN BY ARTHUR MILLER STARRING IAN LEUNG, MEREDITH BAILEY, MELISSA THINGELSTAD, MOLLY FLOOD, ELENA PORTER TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS (U DF A CAMPUS), 1 58 - 520

swirls through the mind of Quentina Miller stand-in who has to deal with the aftermath of the Holocaust, the McCarthy blacklists and, most importantly and frustratingly, the women he tries to spend his life with through all of it—as an undergrad in his native Serbia, and it has been suggested to him as something that might fit his aesthetic by various mentors ever since.

"I first came back to it when a teacher for my master's in Serbia recommended I take a look, but it hadn't even been on my mind as

something I might direct until [highly respected U of A professor] Sandra Nicholls brought it up again as something I should look at," Dzeparoski explains in a quiet voice that still bares traces of his Eastern European homeland

"By that time, I figured the play was following me around, and that it was a sign I should probably just do it already. I think it was even more fitting that all the people who kept recommending it were women who made a huge impact on my life-I think the play really explores that kind of sacred knowledge that women have that we as failure boys will never really reach."

IF THERE'S SOMETHING about when the Fall that Dzeparoski misses, though, he's not letting on. That's no small feat, either: an invasive and almost surreal trip through the mind of one of America's most popular play-

wrights with a thin veneer of drama not so much covering up its source as enhancing it, the play remains one of the more obscure in Miller's oeuvre, in large part due to its com plexity. Dzeparoski, though, main tains that After the Fall is nothing short of genius, an almost-transcen dent play from one of the 20th centu ry's master dramatists.

"Miller really is almost bringing a whole new kind of tragedy to North America in the play," Dzeparoski, who admits to being a fan, though hardly an acolyte, of Miller's work, explains "He looks at this kind of deeply per sonal story in a way that's almost like a Greek tragedy, with a kind of chorus coming in, and this incredible suffer ing and the main character has a fail ing, but in this one his failing is the knowledge he ends up with, and he has to deal with that and with every thing else, private and political, that's coming together around him." V

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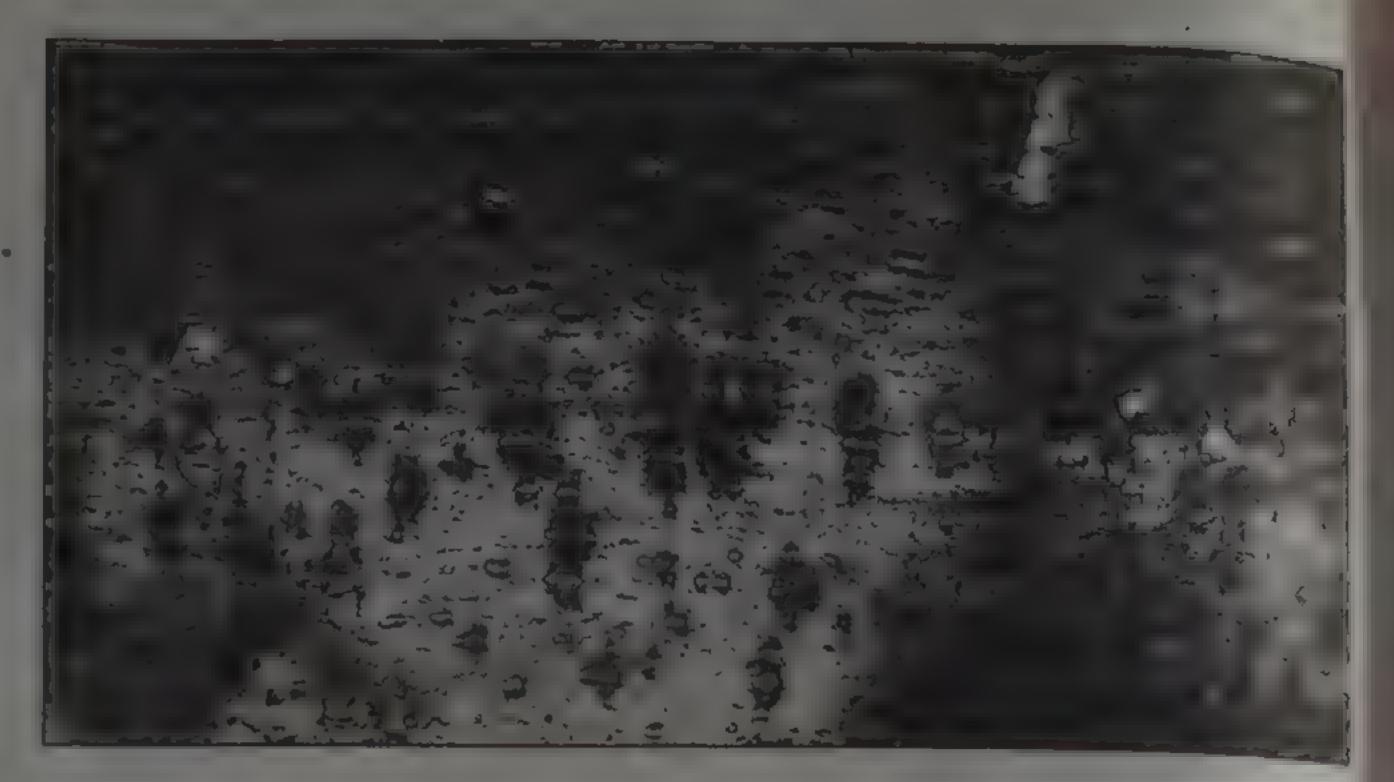
You'll find A Trace of Passage in MFA grad Kyla Fischer's visual haikus

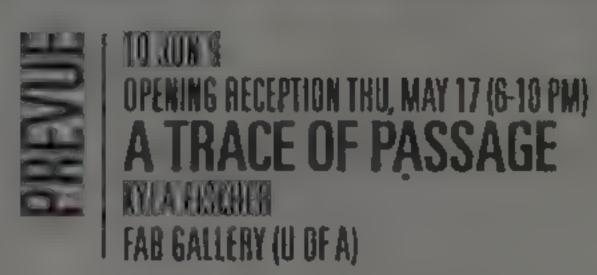
he whole show was made in the last three months. It's an accumulation of all my mistakes, really," ventures Kyla Fischer. "When I started working with these, I knew what interested me when I took the photos, but I didn't necessarily know why I was drawn to these particular things. And I knew my experience in nature, but I didn't know how to describe it."

Fischer's MFA grad show, A Trace of Passage, seeks to articulate her fascination with the natural world, imbue it with private meaning, and open it up to others for interpretation. While her source material comes directly from the great outdoors, she's also informed by the meditative tradition and sympathetic aesthetic of classical Eastern poetry, much of which was likewise inspired by the organic charms of the nonmanmade (Fischer's show title even is derived from a work by medieval poet Su Tung Po).

"I spend a lot of time in the River Valley," Fischer explains. "I notice things in nature—details around me stick. I want to recreate the experience I was having looking at these things; these moments of contemplation and meditation."

If you are imagining something lush and verdant, you have been—for-givably—misled by both our everyday views of natural vistas and our concept of that domain. The pieces in Passage, all black and white and shades of grey, seem far removed from the River Valley. They have a spare and repetitive quality and have





blobs and lines and squiggles—which Fischer refers to as "gestures"—that echo mark-making obsessions in schools of drawing and printmaking.

"Part of the reason these are black and white is that was a way to take it out of context further, out of the context of nature and away from reality, leaving the 'real' world behind," Fischer notes.

Passage consists of three different scales of work: two larger-scaled series and a set of prints, each no bigger than a postcard. All the etchings were created using from photographs of textures Fischer found in nature.

"I look for the gesture right away, when I take the photograph I'm trying to see that. All the information is from reality. There's nothing added, and it's

not layered."

Her mid-sized pieces were the first ones made. They are the closest to the idea of landscape, although the effect is more alien than familiar—consequence of blowing up are decontextualizing a detail of reality

"I wanted to see what they were like bigger, when they envelope you. Then I tried a small scale to see what happened," Fischer recalls. "The large ones have less detail and look almost like deep space. They have a purity of mark in them and an ability to lead you in some sort of contemplative state. The small ones are intimate, like you're peering in, and dense

"While I made these, I was thinking why am I interested in this mark?"

Fischer concludes. "I wanted to distill it to essence and experience. I wanted in the repetition of lines and movement created by repetition In a way, that refers to a length of time. Not like a snapshot or moment in time, but a longer period." v

VisualEyez 2007 brings in artists to respond to 'the city'

MARY CHRISTA O'KEEFE / marychrista@vueweekly.com

Te have a boom economy.

'The City' is the curatorial theme partly as a response to that," explains Latitude 53's Todd Janes, founder and curator of VisualEyez, the only annual per-

formance art festival in Canada.

"We're bringing in artists from all over to respond to the theme—not necessarily 'the city' as an entity in and of itself, but urban behaviour and patterns of activity, such as transit systems or gridding streets. VisualEyez is ideally suited to talking about these things because it's a different model—most festivals here are about creating the 'festival environment' in a place you come to. VisualEyez is a festival that brings art to the people rather than people to the art."

Janes admits to selecting artists who committed to engaging Edmonton audiences outside the gallery context.

FRI, MAY 18 - MON, MAY 28
VISUALEYEZ 2007:
EIGHTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL
OF PERFORMANCE ART

QURAITO BY 1000 JAMES
WITH VARIOUS ARTISTS
LAITHOUGHOUT THE CITY

"Latitude was the centre for a lot of work last year, and that was good, but wasn't the original vision. What makes us original is that the work of artists is presented in a different way to Edmonton, with multiple points of entry to engage with work."

The VisualEyez artists range in experience, provenance and practice, reflecting Janes's care in inviting a diversity of preoccupations and voices.

Some performance descriptions could be a Wes Anderson trope (Lori Weidenhammer's Madame Beespeaker Project invites participants to pass messages and questions to bees via

her time-travelling animal communicator character), while others combine sound and vision (Jackson 2Bear mashes-up Aboriginal pop cultur media references in Iron Tomahawk Marc Couroux and Juliana Pivato driva a soundsystem van playing their own music in The Fetish Character of Missiand the Regression in Listening) or even urban food foraging (Nicole Fournier's "live dining" creates a kitchen environment outdoors).

"Now, in this boom city, people are asking themselves questions like 'Why should I live here? Why not rural Saskatchewan or somewhere cheap or a city like Montréal that's dense with culture and has a rich urban environment. It's important to pause and think about what you are doing and how you are doing it. The themse of 'the city' hopefully provokes questions that look at urban existence in Edmonton right now." Janes laughs "I'm still romantic enough to stall here."

Life is difficult for Teens @ The Turn

. O Frank / devid & rueweekly.com

hallenging them—if you do that, they'll rise up to meet

or of the Citadel's now sevenid Teens @ The Turn festival,

there's no denying she seems to

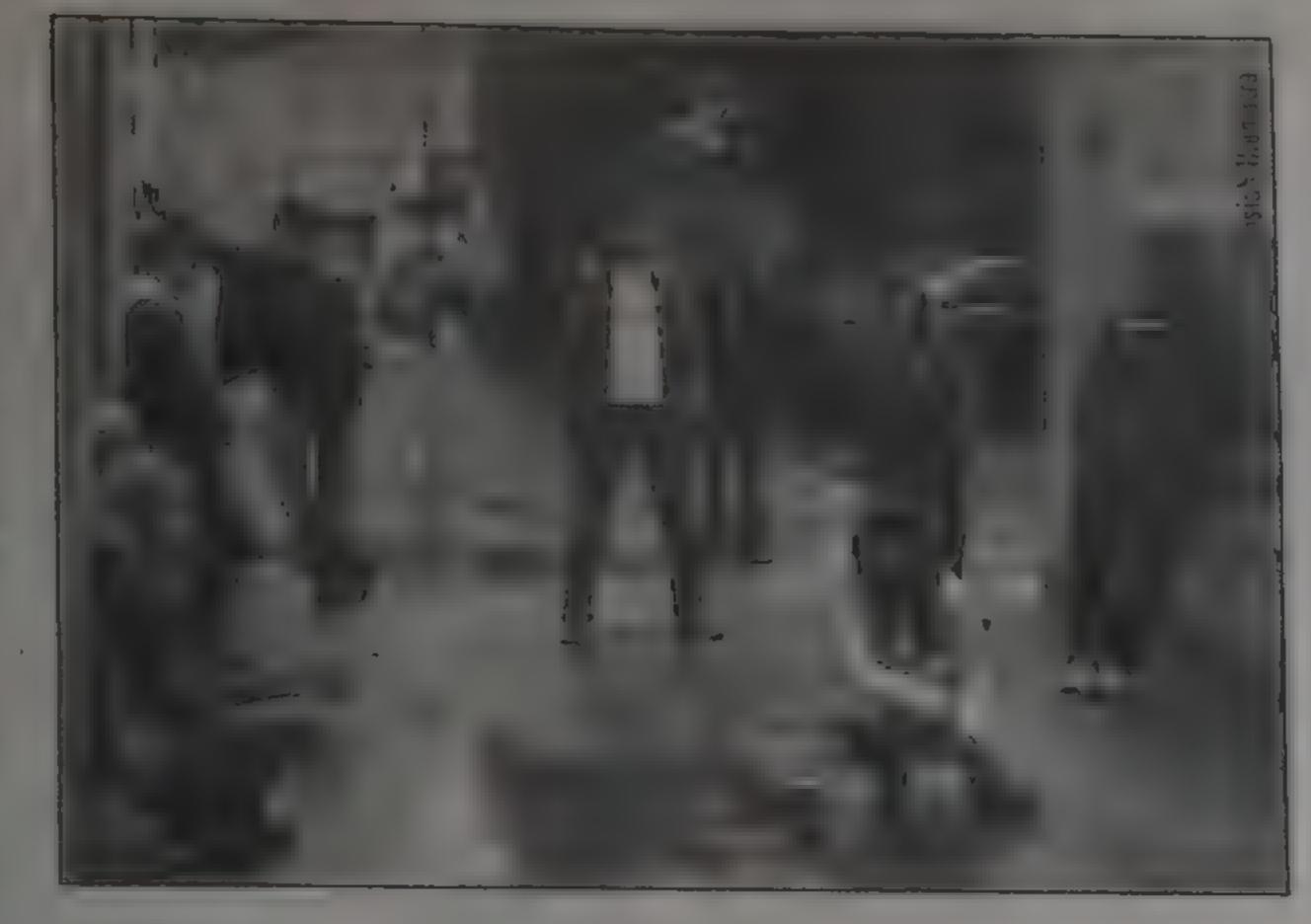
the Land what teenagers are longinto a chance to be taken seribut a particular case, it's as

the and recording to Ekberg, the

there's are indeed to do exactly that.

: pla, lke Sul Urbia has some Jar cult the mes- and maybe some mas in it that people don't think ar rage s should be doing, which I . It e teens sort of relish-but even one of the kids that's in that understands exactly what's world, and they're ally deing an amazing job with it," therg says. "And then the next ight you can come and see Into the ... ods, which is obviously about as different as two plays can get, but is till a really challenging piece that's joing to make them work to get the full effect out of it."

less youth and Stephen Sondheim's twisted fairytale musical, the teens at his year's version of @ The Turn will be tackling Caryl Churchill's Vinegar hm, a dramatic feminist interpretation of witchcraft trials in England, and creating a collective piece about



THU, MAY 17 - SUN, MAY 27
TEENS @ THE TURN
VARIOUS PLAYS & THEATRE ARTISTS
CITADEL THEATRE (9828 - 101 A AVENUE),
SINGLE EVENT \$10; FESTIVAL PASS \$25

the rising epidemic of youth violence in Edmonton, under the direction of Mieko Ouchi. They'll also all get together to put on a cabaret of talent, something new for the festival this year, and a chance for them to showcase something besides their dramatic abilities.

As Ekberg explains, the cabaret is an on-stage example of much of what goes on behind the scenes at the festival.

"As much as anything, I think the festival is really about building a community among teen artists in the city, and then giving them connections to the larger Edmonton theatre community as a whole," she says, pointing out that a large part of the festival's goals are actually achieved by getting the teens to work with professional directors and technicians before they even step on the stage for the festival performances. "This is a chance for them to meet people in all sorts of other disciplines, and hopefully create some relationships that will be fruitful for them down the road, when they step out into the bigger community." V

Find bombs! and fugitives! in Black Diamond Detective Agency

BRIAN GIBSON / brian@vueweekly.com

on the small comix-publishing block, but Eddie Campbell has been around for a while. Best known for illustrating Alan Moore's From Hell, Campbell's also put out the autobiographical Alec series and, just last year, the self-conscious The Fate of the Artist.

Campbell's latest, The Black Diamond Detective Agency, comes at you from the cover page, with its imitation 19th-century engraving type, its bombastic telegraph-style announcement (Orphans! Mayhem! Terror!) and its self-advertisement as a "picture" novel." The project smacks a little too obviously of the commercial—based on a screenplay by C Gaby Mitchell, it seems packaged as a movie storyboard pitched to Hollywood execs looking for an adaptable historical thriller (think A History of Violence meets Road to Perdition). But at least the first half of this self-conscious book, in a series of kaleidoscopic, nesting-doll plots, reflects characters, the author, and even the reader back at themselves as it flashes into life a few vivid corners of 1899 America.

Campbell has, as the inside title page announces, "framed [the tale] as a graphical narrative." The first half, titled "Frames," plays with per spective and vision (glass frames), space and setting (panel frames and the framing of the story itself), and

ON SALE MAY 29
THE BLACK DIAMOND
DETECTIVE AGENCY
BY EDDIE CAMPBELL
FIRST SECOND, 521

the super-imposition and forging of identity (corn farmer John Hardin is framed for a train bombing in Lebanon, Missouri).

The first page has Hardin (looking like the self-drawn Campbell in The Fate of the Artist) staring at the reader but the reader can't see his eyes then we realize we are the mirror, reflecting back to Hardin what he and we want to see. Campbell takes out sections of space as though Hardin is on a half-constructed set, emphasizing buildings and rooms as mere backdrop on the blank spaces of page and life.

clear time and place, the next pages explode with historical detail. Campbell evokes the sudden, smoking carnage of an 1899 train bombing in stark streaks of red and black. The silent devastation, the farmer's mute, brave response, the Black Diamond Detective Agency's quick arrest. Hardin, and the man seem performance of his master past.

CONTINUES ON NET PAGE

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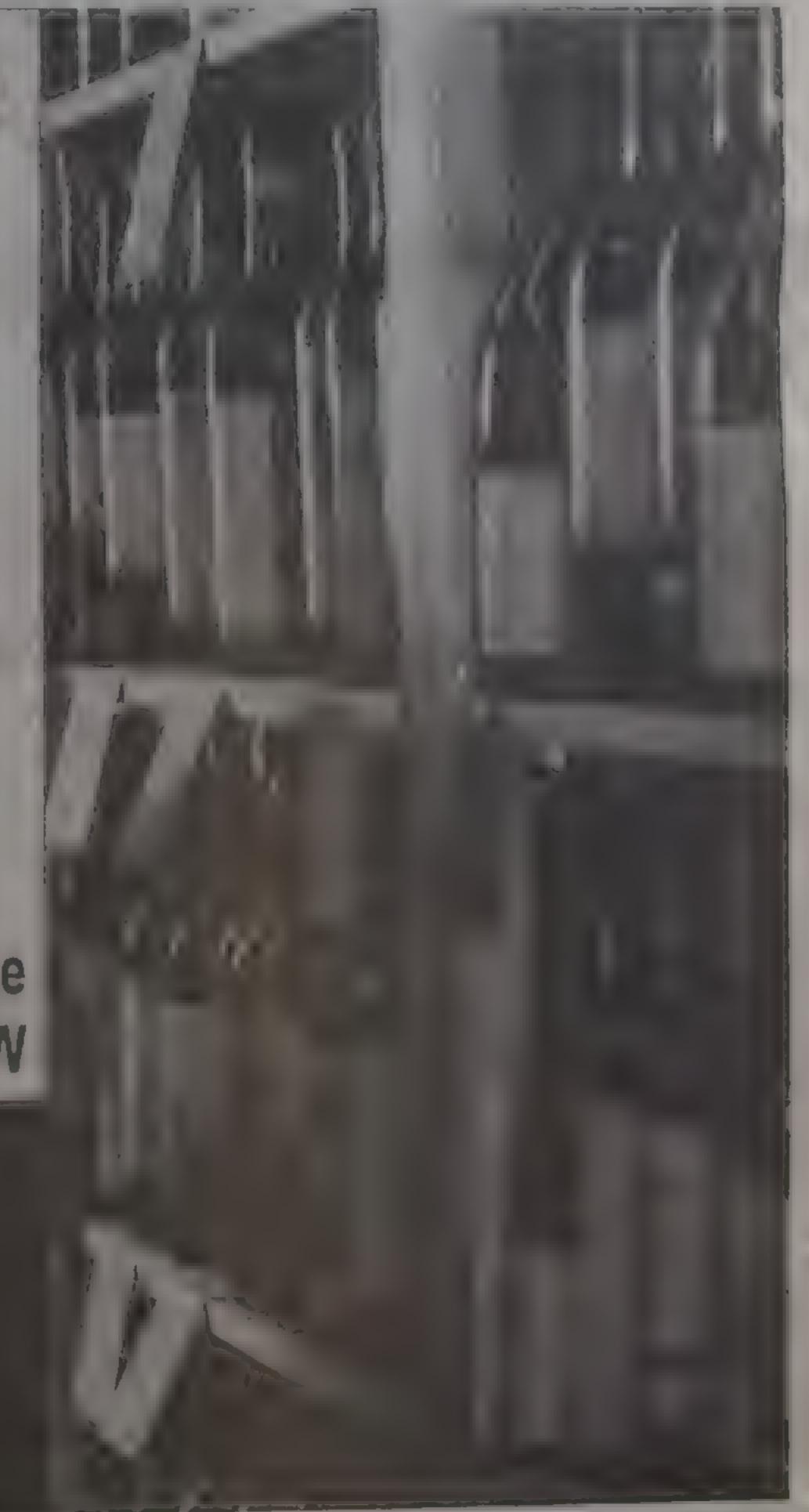
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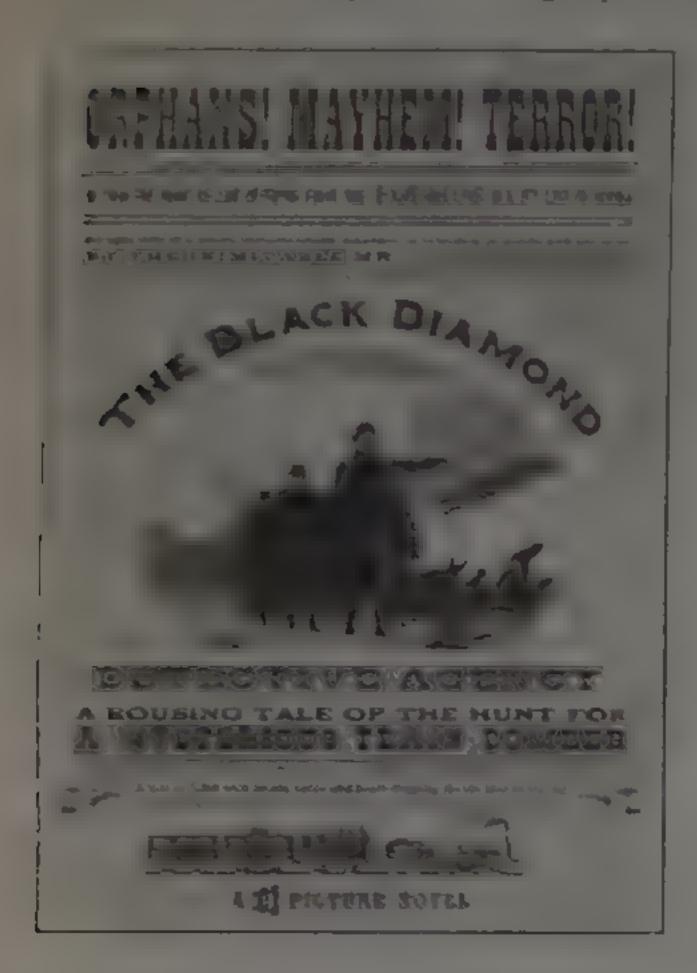
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BLACK DIAMOND DETECTIVE BOKA SUSTINETA META COMMITTEE

come in slashes and smears of colour and wordless, staccato trames. Some details are explained by descriptive boxes as the story weaves its punchy dramatic rhythm. This is an example of the graphic



narrative as closer to the flow and play of music.

Campbell moves back and forth between the dialogue-snapping investigators and Hardin's quiet, tense journey back to Chicago. As he tries to solve the mystery of who framed him, we try to decipher who he was, where his wife is, and what the "Dear Frank" letter in the opening frames of the story means. In this bizarre chase triangle, the reader,

Hardin and the Detective Agency shadow each other, overlapping in a fractured mosaic as twisted leads tangle into each other.

Campbell's portraits of people seem rushed and crude in places, or a little washed out and non-descript in others. Action sequences can be unclear and disjointed. But he relies on some blank panels and hulking landscapes within frames to give the characters shape. These are people of their time, forms and forces struggling to emerge from corn fields or bustling streets and come into their own in a country steadily changing. And even as the reader tries to piece a picture of Hardin together, within the story, Sadie gives up the blurry camera and tries to sketch a Wanted picture of Hardin from eyewitness testimony.

In the second half, as Hardin becomes more of an inside man and the story slips deeper undercover, The Black Diamond Detective Agency further refracts and bends truth and narrative. Motives and culprits, though, are sketchily drawn. The book tapers away into tied-up plot strands and grandiose resolutions as the movie plot lumbers in, along with some obvious nods to the 21stcentury reader.

The epilogue has some nice moments, but then effects are starker and clearer than causes throughout this book. On its best pages, as a slashing, headlong pursuit of picture and text, Campbell's work has a raw power, offering a frenetic sense of grit and energy in a time when lawlessness and disorder spilled over the frame in the American Midwest. V



tar pit of stupidity."

Into the Woods

"happily ever after"?

PERSONAED BY THE FOOTE THEATPE

SCHOOLS WOLLD MANUEL TO MANUELY

MAY 17 @ 7:00pm / MAY 19 @ 7:00pm

MAY 23 @ 7 00 m / MAY 26 @ 2 00 PM

STEPHEN SONDHEIM & JAMES LAPINE'S

blends familiar fairy tales with unfamiliar

consequences - what happens AFTER

MARY 13 @ 7 00 MAY 19 @ 2 00 MA

MAY 25@7.00mm/MAY 27@7.00mm

A classic and beloved musical that

Gypsies like us, baby, we were born to Romany Blues

SHERRY DAWN KNETTLE / sherry@vneweekly.com

ypsy music seems to have poriginated in India, says Moni Matthew, music director of Vinok Worldance. Nomads began migrating about a thousand years ago, learning to play and sing the popular music of the regions they travelled to.

They would hire themselves out as musicians, adapting the music they learned, transplanting it into Africa, Spain and the Middle East, eventually moving into Europe. And as the musicians moved around, they accumulated fascinating traditional musical instruments from the local areas.

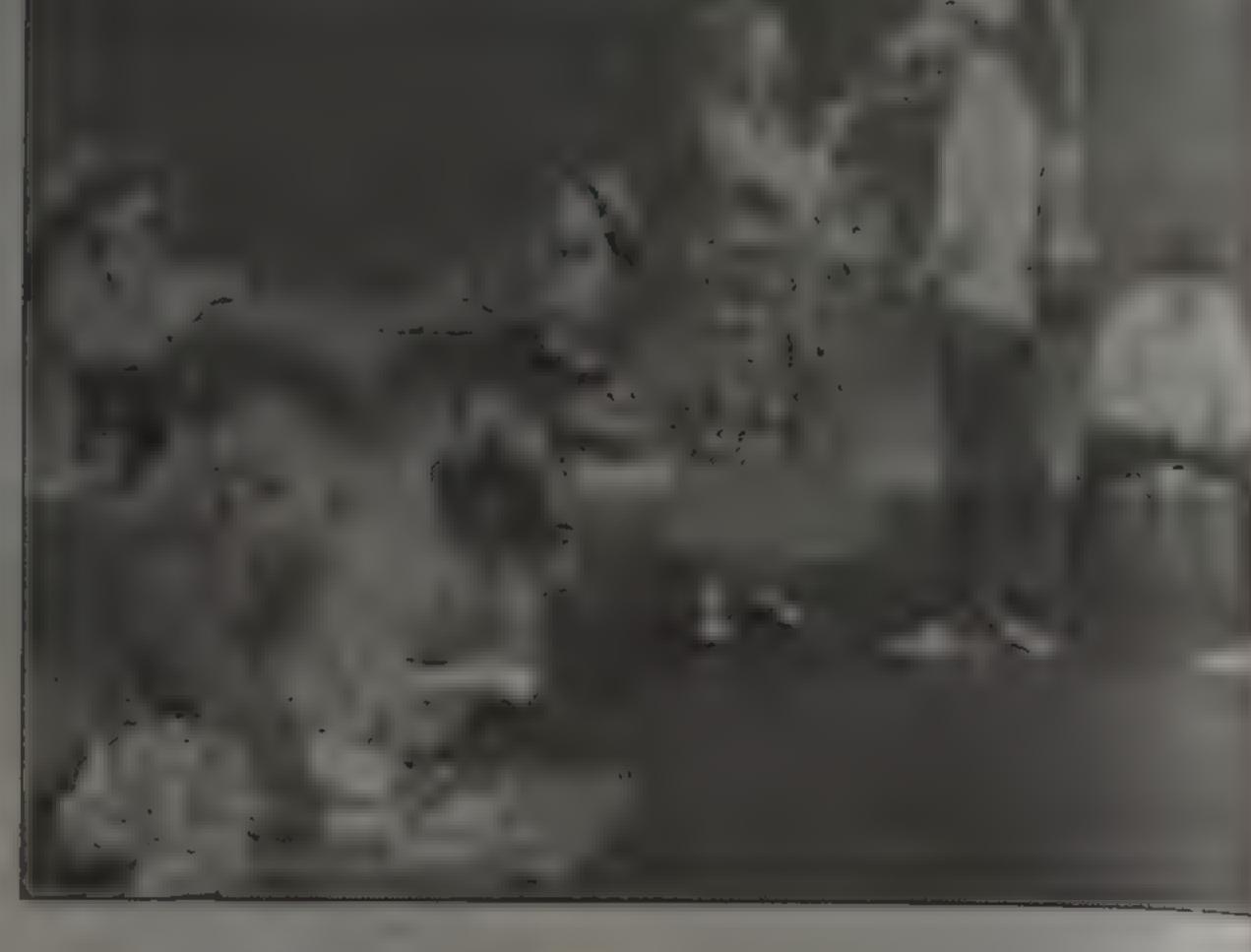
Now, as Vinok prepares for Romany Blues, its upcoming dance performance about Gypsies, Matthew and his four-piece orchestra are adding to their already unusual collection of over 30 instruments. Less prevalent instruments, such as the lute-like saz and oud, and a Middle Eastern drum—the darabouka—are instruments making their way into the hands of these versatile musicians.

Gypsy music is lively and percussive, with lots of irregular rhythmic structures, explains Leanne Koziak, executive director of Vinok, and cochoreographer of Romany Blues.

The dances are strongly tied to the music, and she has had some interesting experiences teaching her company of eight dancers, which include three dancers from Slovakia, as well as herself and daughter Taisa Marko.

Koziak, explaining how Taisa earned a place in the company by making Koziak's job a little bit easier.

"It only takes her about five minutes to master what it sometimes takes other dancers about a week to



MACLAB THEATRE (9828 - 101A AVENUE),

figure out," she says, adding that Taisa learned to dance through osmosis, having experienced folk dancing even before she was born.

KOZIAK AND TAISA'S father Doyle Marko co-founded the company almost 20 years ago, and the senior Marko will also perform in the upcoming show.

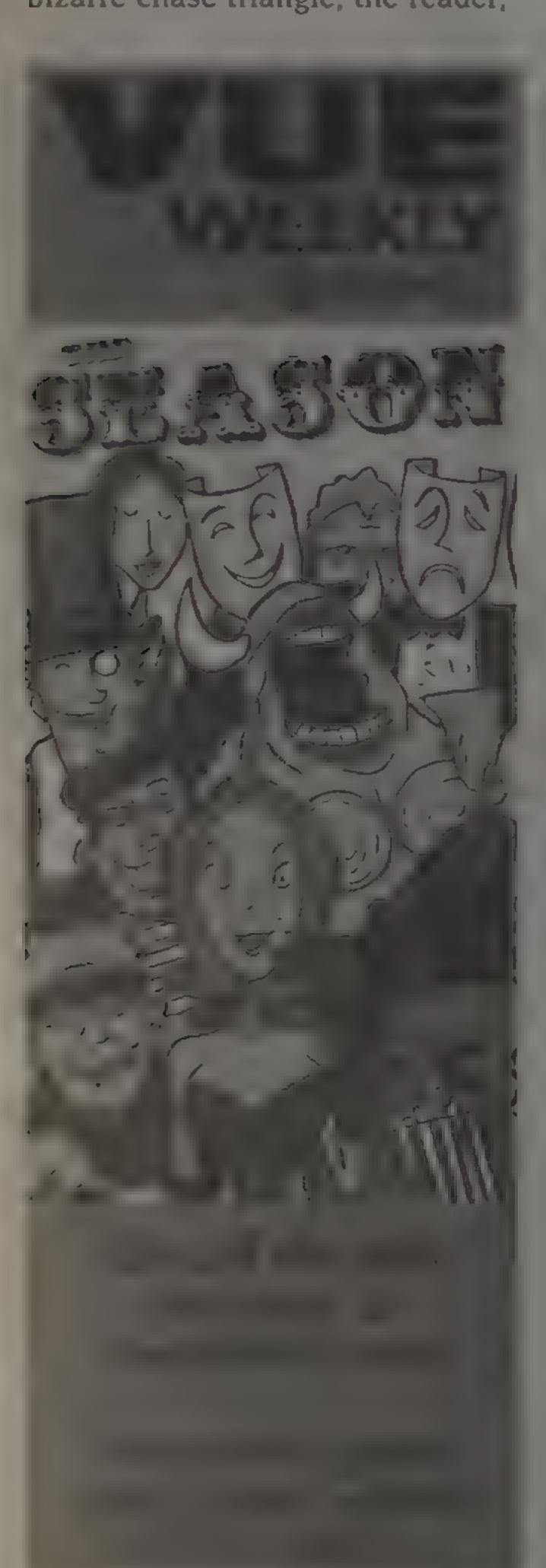
Koziak and Marko are now at the age where many dancers are moving away from the stage and into other "She's a natural born dancer," says careers, but she says that it's like a gift to still be dancing. World dance has been a lifelong passion for Koziak, who was raised to revere the Ukrainian culture, which eventually led to creating the international folk dance company.

For Romany Blues, she and fellow choreographers Marko, Lukas Cabal ka, as well as other choreographers from around the world, created the dances and chose the music to tell the story of a young man who find romance when he begins to research his great-grandfather's life as a Gypsy. The story is based on poetn by Edmonton's Marijan Megla

Matthew says that he and his orchestra have enjoyed putting together the music for the show which includes dances and music from India, Slovakia, Hungary and Spain, among others.

He's been with Vinok, a compart that tours frequently, for about 15 years now, and says that every sho is a wonderful new experience

"Working with Vinok has been a chance for me to learn and plan some interesting music," he said "And it's given me the opportunity to travel to places I've never expected to go." V



ERIC BOGOSIAN'S SubUrbia COLLECTIVE CREATION ON "There's a world outside this

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A work-in-progress created and performed by a group of eight Edmonton teens who have something to say about violence in our community.

MAY 20 @ 2:00PM and 7:00PM MAY 24 @ 7:00PM May 27 @ 3:30PM



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"A play about witches with no witches in it; a play not about evil, hysteria and possession by the Devil, but about poverty, humiliation and prejudice." CHURCHILL

MAY 20 @ 8,30mm / MAY 22 @ 7 00mm MAY 24@ 8:30PM / MAY 27@ 2:00PM

PERFORMED BY THE FOOTE THEATRE SCHOOL'S TEEN ACTING COMPANY Teens @ The Turn CABARET

An evening of original music, dance, magic, theatre, and more MAY 26 @ 7:00PM

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New works by members of the Citadel's Maclab Enterprises Students Club MAY 22 @ 8 3 OFM

- 12 YOUR FREE LISTINGS TO 426.2829 CHE THAIL GLENYS AT TITE GS GYUEWEEKLY.COM LAULINE IS FRIDAY AT 3 PM

LICEMOSH UKRAINIAN DANCE SENIZLE L. O Howard Theatre, Victoria , ... the time to forming Arts (466-0089) • a Styna 2 of End Concert Cheremosh Ukrainian . 1 . n 1,1 . 1.1 3 27

" ILE TERO DANCE-RURAL ROOTS Landing - 11 101 St, i pstiars (424-1573) • Tit in Sind Jesse Gervais, a - . do r to be the Tanya tukin tinklater. You and Strant's Dance Theatre. 1 1 . • 14., 25.26 (2cm) • \$6 (mem-Jung Part er) at the Landing Pad

GALLERIES/MUSEUMS

CNIES BUSERA GALLERY 12310 Jasper , : 1 70 1 • Open Tue-Sat 10am-5pm • 1901 FIELDS, Paintings by Karen Yrkovich . May 26-June 8 . Opening reception: Sat, lay 26 (2-4pm)

ALDERTA CRAFT COUNCIL GALLERY 0186-106 St (488-6611) • Open Mon-Sat Dam-Spm (closed all hols) . Feature Gallery: BREW-HAHA. Fun and fabulous papots and tea-sets; until July 14 • Discovery Gallery: THE NAKED TRUTH: Artworks by Christopher Boha; until May 26

ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA Enterprise Square, 100, 10230 Jasper Ave . Open Moned 10.30am-5pm, Thu 10:30am-8pm (4-8pm) ree admission); Sat-Sun 11am-5pm . CHINA NSATION: Ne .. Art from Chengdu; until f = I An exhibition featuring artworks by nine Edmonton artists; until May 27 NFLAT, David Cantine; until June 10 • 18T OUTDOORS: featuring the ten original larks of art that are featured in the Art Outdoors billboards; until May 27 • BACK TO E FUTURE. Featured artworks by Franklin Carmichael, George Reid, AY Jackson, Tom Thomson, Frederick Varley, JEH Macdonald, Comelius Krieghoff, Lawren Harris, Ansel Adams, Maxwell Bates, Marion Nicoll, and many more; until June 10 • Davey Thompson a hands-on workshop; Sat, May 26 (1-4pm) • Drop-In Tours: Sat and Sun (12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3 30pm)

ART MODE GALLERY 12220 Jasper Ave (453-1555) • Feel the Rhythm: Eric Waugh's intings involve music, motion, charcoal and colour, depicting scenes of fun and life . Until May 19

THE C ARTS VISUELS OF L'ALBERTA 03-95 Ave. {461-3427} • EXUBERANCE: Featuring artworks by Laura Watmough, Urmilla Zcenka Das, Zong Nguyen Sie-Mah and Mary Wright . Until May 23

"UGLAS UDELL GALLERY 10332-124 St 38-4445) ● Open Tue-Fri 9.30am-5:30pm ● w works by gallery artists ' ' sitions: featuring photography - Fright ● Until May 19

": "HAT DECIGN STUDIO AND 15.7 1 1 ny Plain Rd (482-1402) • - ment; Wed-Fri 11amclosed long weekends ודיקוֹ closed long weekends New artworks by vari-

"F, GALLERY Rm 1-1 Fine Arts Bldg, 112 St, • Open Tue-Fri 10am-5pm, · 'I · FITTO COT WITH HOPE . A harks by Robert Pope. 9, opening reception
1. 'Public lecture: The .. . 'R . it Page Reaching Out The sented by William . 5 (2 1/ m.) at Bernard Snell --- of the sample Health, Sciences antre (U of A Hospital) and Thu, May 17 at Fine Arts Building, Rm 2-20 . A THACE OF PASSAGE: Printworks by Kyla

Fischer, until June 9; opening reception: Thu, May 17 (6-10pm)

FRINGE GALLERY 10516 Whyte Ave (432-

0240) • Open Mon-Sat 9.30am-6pm • Recent artworks by Violet Owens . Until May 30 GALLERY AT MILNER-STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY Main Fl, Sir Winston Churchill Sq (496-7030) • Open Mon-Fri 9am-

9pm; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun 1-5pm • THE WRITTEN WORD: Featuring works by the Edmonton Calligraphic Society . Until May 30, demonstrations on Sun (1-4pm)

HARCOURT HOUSE 10215-112 St [426-4180] Open Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 12-4pm FRONT ROOM: LITTLE MEN: Shane Golby's constructed images were created out of anger in response to the gay marriage debate in Canada. They address issues of censorship, freedom of expression, gay identity, and the line between art and pornography; May 17-June 16 • THE DRAG KING PROJECT: Artworks by Toni Latour; May 17-June 16 • Opening reception: Thu, May 17 (7-10pm), artist talk by Tony Latour • in the Annex: DEAD INJUNS PART 2: Performance by Jackson 2bears; Sat, May 19 (7pm reception; 8pm show)

JEFF ALLEN GALLERY Strathcona Place, 10831 University Ave (433-5282) • Open Mon-Fri 9am-4pm • BURST OF COLOUR: Featuring pottery, woodwork, fabric art and paintings • Until May 31

JOHNSON GALLERY (NORTH) 11817-80 St (479-8424) Open Tue-Fri 9:30am-5:30pm; Sat 9:30am-4pm • Serigraphs by Norval Morrisseau and Jackson Beardy, prints by Toti, still life paintings by Cindy Revell, wall art by Raymond Chow; until May 31 • (SOUTH) 7711-85 St (465-6171) • Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm; Sat 10am-5pm • Artworks by Shirley Thomas, Edythe Markstad Buchanan. Serigrahs of Edmonton buildings by George Webber, pottery by Jim Speers; until May 31

KOHON DESIGNS INC 143, 10309-107 St (428-6230) • Open Mon-Fri 9:30am-5pm; Sat 10am-4pm • Recent paintings by Jermaine Wunderly • May 24-June 16 • Opening reception: Thu, May 24 (7-9pm)

LOFT GALLERY AJ Ottewell Arts Centre, Red Barn, 590 Broadmoor Blvd, Sherwood Park {467-4481} • Open Sat 10am-4pm; Thu 5-9pm TIME FOR CHANGE: Artworks by Jane Antoniuk, Karen Moir, Sonja Marinoske, Anne McCartney, Diana Sapara, and Lynda McAmmond

MACEWAN COLLEGE MacEwan Rm, City Centre Campus, 10700-104 Ave • 16TH ANNUAL ASIAN HERITAGE ART EXHIBIT: Tat Ming Yee's Student Art Group . Until June 8 (8am-4pm)

MCMULLEN GALLERY U of A Hospital, 8440-112 St (407-7152) • Open Mon-Fri 10am-8pm; Sat-Sun 1-8pm . A CONSERVA-TION PORTRAIT-NATURAL HABITATS AND SPECIES: Multi-media artworks of the landscape, flora and fauna by Cindy Barratt and Elaine Funnell • Until May 27

MCPAG 5411-51 St, Stony Plain (963-2777) • Open Mon-Sat 10am-4pm; Sun 10am-6.30pm CHROMATICITY: New paintings by Dennis Brown; until May 24 . The Dining Room Gallery: Artworks by Mary Pityn Doinchuk; until June 28

MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE 5411-51 St, Stony Plain (963-2777) . Open

daily 11:30am-4pm . SASSY LADIES: A display highlighting the "sassy" side of women including a revealing collection of intimates from the early years . Until May 28

NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS Stollery Gallery, 9704-111 Ave (474-7611) • Open Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30am-2:30pm; Tue, Thu 6:30-4pm; 6-8pm • COME WHAT MAY 2007: New artworks by Nina Haggerty studio artists Until May 25 • Reception: May 24 (4-7pm)

ORTONA GALLERY 2nd Fl, 9722-102 St . Open Sat and Sun 12-6pm or by appointment · STICKS AND STONES-MAKE MY BONES: Mixed media artworks by Iva Janiga • Through May

PICTURE THIS GALLERY 959 Ordze Rd. Sherwood Park (467-3038) • MASTERPIECES IN MINIATURE: Featuring of 40 artists artworks . Until May 24

THE PORTAL GALLERY 9414-91 St (702-7522) • Open Mon-Wed 12-5pm; Thu-Fri 12-8pm; Sat 12-7pm • WARMTH: Figurative and I landscape paintings by Alberta artists . Until June 16

PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY 19 Perron Street, St. Albert (460-4310) . Open Tue-Sat (10am-5pm), Thu (10am-8pm) . HIGH ENERGY XII: Artworks by students of St. Albert High school students • Until June 2

ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM 12845-102 Ave • COOL AND COLLECTED: See the unseen from the Museum's collections; until July 2 • GALEN ROWELL-A RETROSPECTIVE: Landscape photographs; until July 2 • PROJECT RENEWAL: a glimpse of the Museum's redevelopment plans; until July 2

SCOTT GALLERY 10411-124 St (488-3619) • Open Tue-Sat 10am-5pm • COLOUR SPAIN Landscape paintings of Mojacar by Lynn Malin • Until May 29

SNAP GALLERY 10309-97 St (423-1492) • Open Tue-Sat 12-5pm • INVENTIONS AND UNCOMMON PLACES: Printworks by Jörg Rothenpieler • Until June 2

SPRUCE GROVE ART GALLERY • MOMENTS: Artworks by Doris Charest . Unti-May 26

TRANSALTA ARTS BARNS 10330-84 Ave (423-1492) • SNAP-SHOT OF THE PAST: Local, national, and international print works from SNAP's archives . Until mid June

TU GALLERY 10718-124 St (452-9664) • EXPOSURE: Featuring the 2007 NAIT Photography Technology Grads artworks • Until May 19

URBAN ROOTS 82 Ave, 104 St, Alley FORWARD: Progressive Canadian graffitti curated by John Drager . May 19-July 15 . Opening reception: May 19 (7-10pm)

VAAA GALLERY 3rd Fl, Harcourt House, 10215-112 St (421-1731) • Open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm; Sat 12-4pm • MACBETH'S HOR-RIBLE IMAGININGS: Artworks by Wade Stout May 17-June 16
 Opening reception: Thu, May 17 (7-9:30pm)

THE WORKS FESTIVAL Suite 200, 10225-100 Ave, www theworks.ab.ca

LITERARY

AUDREYS BOOKS 10702 Jasper Ave (423-3487) • Book launch of Tim Bowling's new novel The Bone Sharps; Thu, May 17 (7:30pm) Reading by Susan Zimmer, author of I Love Coffee; Fri, May 25 (12-1:30pm) • Readings by Gayleen Froese, from her book Touch; Roberta Rees, from Long After Fathers; Lois Braun, from The Penance Drummer, and Margaret Macpherson, from Released; Thu, May 31 (7:30pm)

BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ 9624-76 Ave (469-8755) Story Slam: An opportunity for writers to share their work, explore their talents and show off . Third Wed each month . \$5 (donation)

KASBAR LOUNGE Basement of Yianni's Taverna, 10444 Whyte Ave (914-8620) • Rapture: Open stage poetry with the Raving Poets band every Wed (sign-up: 7:30pm; show: 8pm) until May 30

MANDOLIN BOOKS 6419-112 Ave . Book launch and discussion with Susan Scott's All Our Sisters, introduction by Ray Martin . Thu, May 24 (7pm)

NAKED CYBER CAFÉ 10354 Jasper Ave • Music, poetry, and performance art open stage hosted by the Naked Eclectic Electric Orchestra • Every Thu (8pm)

3 BANANAS CAFE AT CHURCH HILL SOUARE . WOW - Wired on Words: We all have something to say, amateurs and professionals alike. Let this creative writing process guide you into self-discovery . Meetings bimonthly, Sun (4-6pm) e-mail feelgoodbeweltin2007@gmail.com for info

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA Rm 1-22, Education South Building, www.caaalberta.org . Canadian Authors Association meeting featuring presentation on Quiet Listening and Creative Practice by Joe Simons Fri, May 25 (8pm)

LIVE COMEDY

THE COMEDY FACTORY 3414 Gateway Boulevard (469-4999) . Thu (8:30pm), \$11; Fri (8:30pm), \$20; Sat (8pm), \$20; Sat (10:30pm), \$20 • Every Wed (8:30pm): Wacky Wednesday; \$5 . Dave Stawnichy; May 17-19 • Hitman Lorenzo; May 24-26

THE COMIC STRIP 1646 Bourbon St, WEM, 8882-170 St (483-5999) • Open nightly 8pm,

Fri 8pm and 10:30pm, Sat 8pm and 10:30pm, Sun 8pm . Tony Rock, James Ball, Lars Callieou, and Rick Bronson; May 17-20 . Hit or Miss Mondays; Mon, May 21 . Alternative Comedy Night; Tue, May 22 • Kelly Taylor, Lars Callieou, and James Uloth: May 23-27 . Hit or Miss Mondays; Mon, May 28 • Alternative Comedy Night; Tue, May 29 • Joe Derosa, Matt Wojicicki, Dan Bodribb, Rob Pue; May 30-June 3

NEW CITY LIXWID LOUNGE . Comedy Extravaganza: First Tue each month; no minors; 8:30pm (door), 9pm (show) • \$5

RIVERSIDE BAR AND GRILL 367 St. Albert Rd (460-1122) • Wednesday Night Live: Open stage for comedy, and music hosted by Barbara May and the Tumbling Dice (8-10pm) No cover

YUK YUK'S KOMEDY KABARET Londonderry Mall (481-9857) . Open Wed-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 8pm and 10.30pm • Sun Industry Night; \$10 . Wednesday Crash and

THEATRE

AFTER THE FALL Timms Centre for the Arts. U of A Campus (420-1757/492-2271) • Studio Theatre . By Arthur Miller, directed by Stefan Dzeparoski . An autobiographical work which deals with the questions of quilt and innocence • May 17-26 (8pm); Pre-Show Talk: May 22 (7:15pm); matinee: May 24 (12:30pm); no show May 20 • \$8-\$20 at the Timms Centre for the Arts (one hour prior), TIX on the Square

DIAMOND DOG Catalyst Theatre, 8529 Gateway Blvd • A new play by Belinda Cornish of Panties Productions. A fast-paced, funny story about a group of small-time British criminals in way over their heads Directed by Ken Brown • \$15 (adult)/\$12 (student/senior); Two-For-One Tuesdays, Pay-What-You-Can Sundays; tickets available at the door . Until May 19 (8pm)

DIE-NASTY Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave. (433-3399) • The Legendary live improvised soap opera. This season, the Canadian Comedy Award-winning Improv troupe Die-Nasty presents The Die-Hards: the greatest NHL hockey team that never was . Every

Mon (8pm) . Season Finale: Mon. May 28 . \$10 (door)

EAST OF MY USUAL BRAIN Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave (433-3399 #1/420-1757) • New play by Stewart Lemoine starring Ron Pederson, Belinda Cornish and Ryan Parker in a tale of young bookstore clerk Eric Thaw whose perceptions of life in an unremarkable city undergo an extraordinary transformation when he accepts a position as the research assistant to author Istvan Madaras . May 24-June 9 (Tue-Sat 8pm; Sat matinees 2pm) • \$20 (adult)/\$17 (student, senior/Equity) at TIX on the Square Pay-What-You-Can: Tue/first Sat mat (May) 26); Sat mat (June 2 and 9): \$10

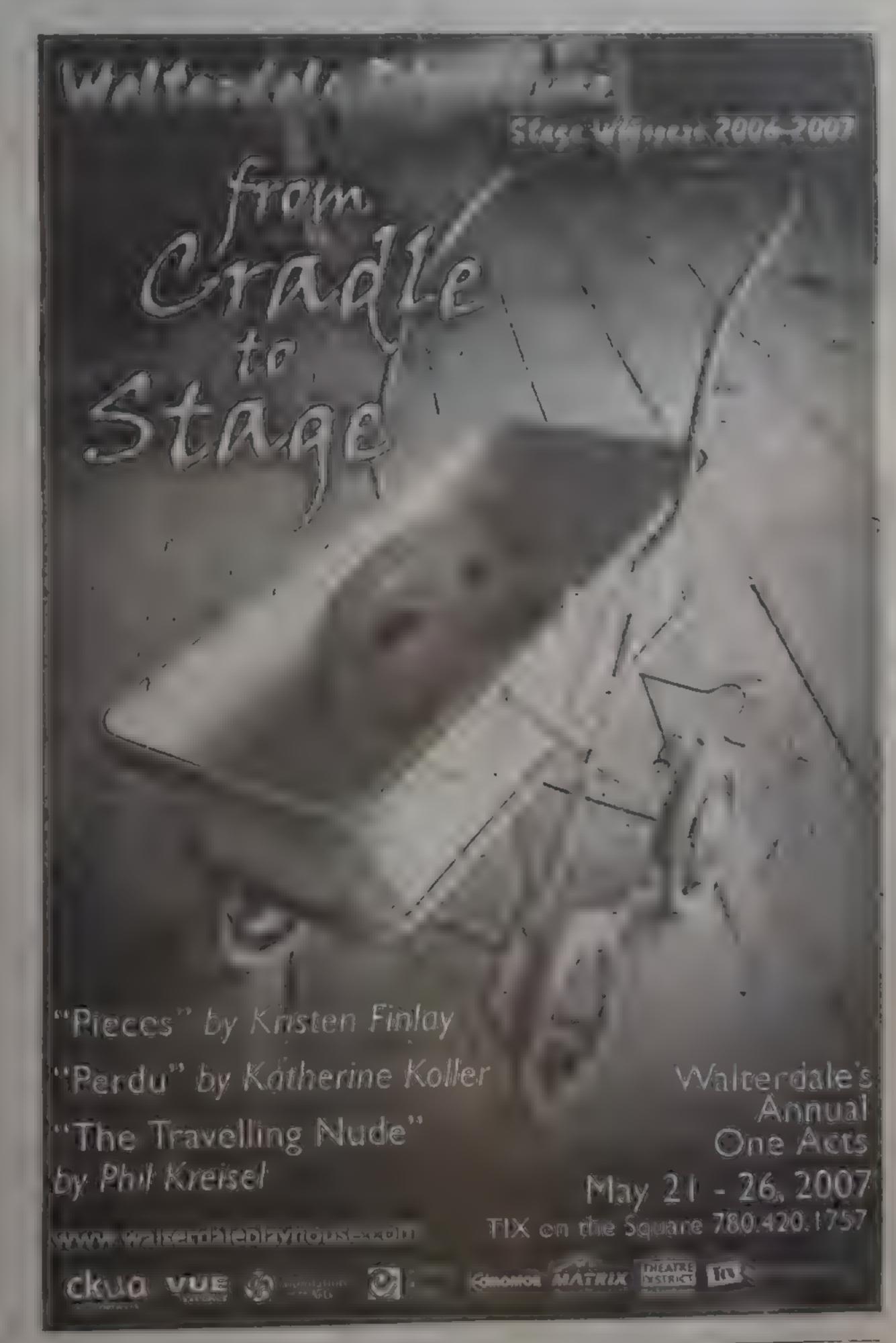
FROM CRADLE TO STAGE Walterdale Playhouse, 10322-83 Ave (439-2845) • Three original one act plays by local playwrites. The Traveling Nude by Phil Kreisel, Perdu by Katherine Koller, and Pieces by Kristen Findlay May 21-26 (Tue-Sat 8pm), Sun matinees (2pm) • \$12 (student/senior)/\$14 (adult) at TIX on the Square

GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES Mayfield Dinner Theatre (1-800-661-9804) • A funny classy, sexy musical with music by Jule Styne and lyrics by Leo Robin. Lorelei Lee, a golddigging blonde bombshell, and her street will a showgirl friend Dorothy Shaw, take a vacation cruise through Europe . Until June 24

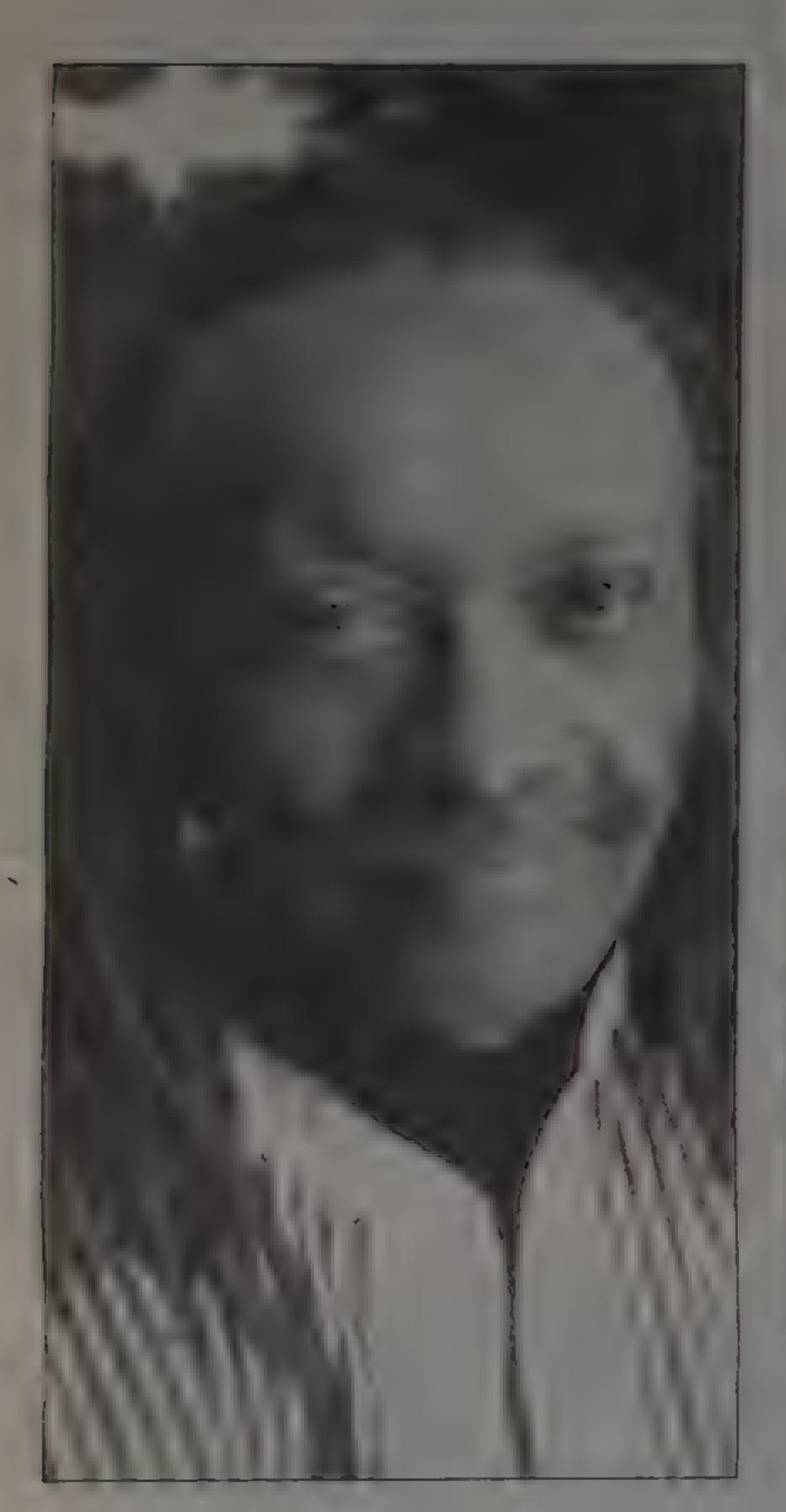
GRANNY GHOST WHISPERER Jubilation Dinner Theatre, 8882-170 Street, WEM (484.2424) • Until June 3

OLIVERI Citadel Shoctor Theatre, 9828-101A Ave (425-1820) • Musical by Lionel Bart based on the story Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens . Orphaned, and forced to live in a brutal workhouse, young Oliver wants more than the pitiable hand dealt him by fate. Sold to the local undertaker, he escapes into the seamy underworld of Victorian London where he falls in with a gang of child pickpockets • Until June 3 • Tickets available at the Citadel Theatre box office

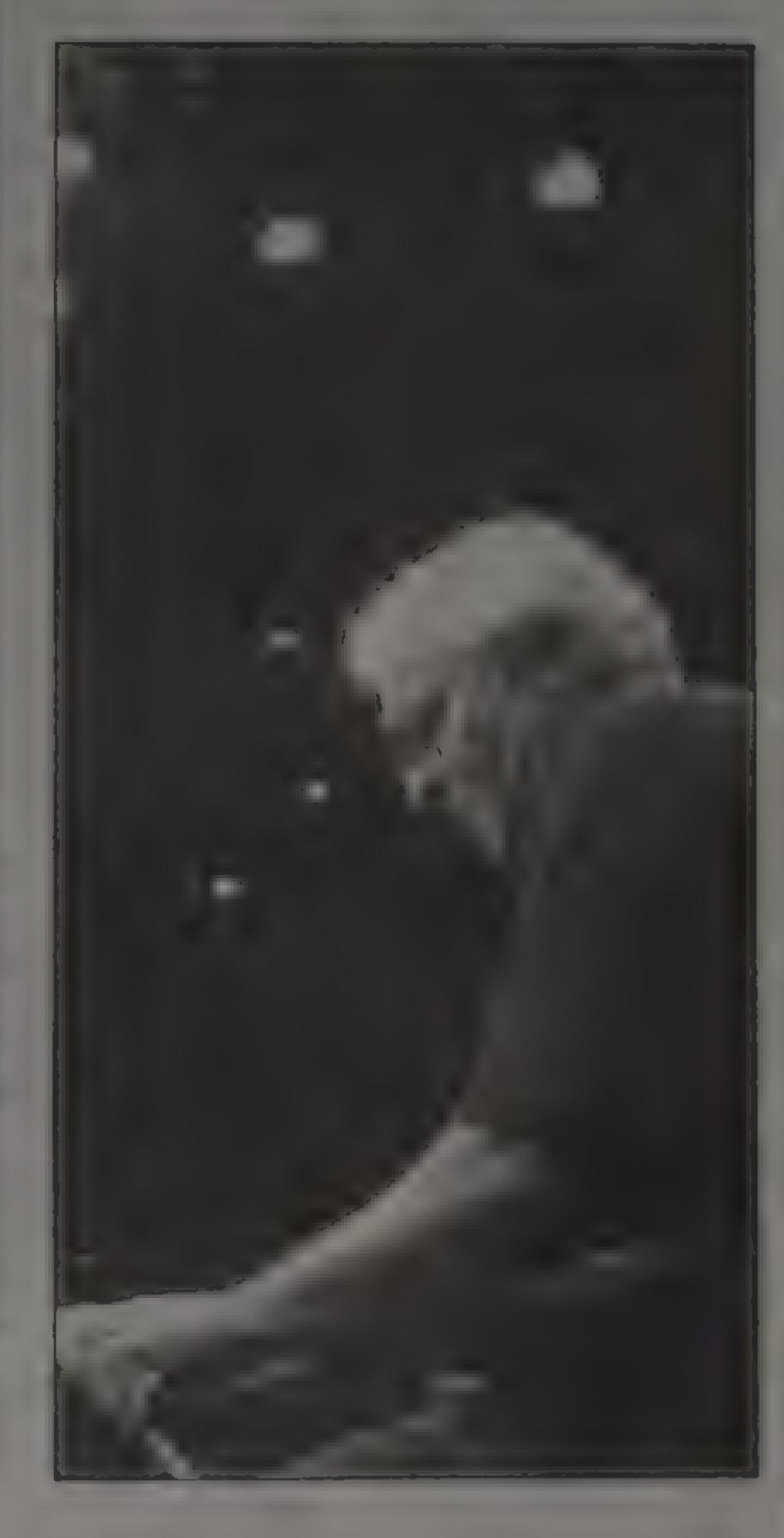
OH SUSANNAI Varscona Theatre, 10329-83 Ave (433-3399) • The Euro-style variety spec tacle, hosted by international glamour-gal Susanna Patchouli and her divine co-host Eros, God of Love . Sat, May 26 (11pm) . Tickets available at the door

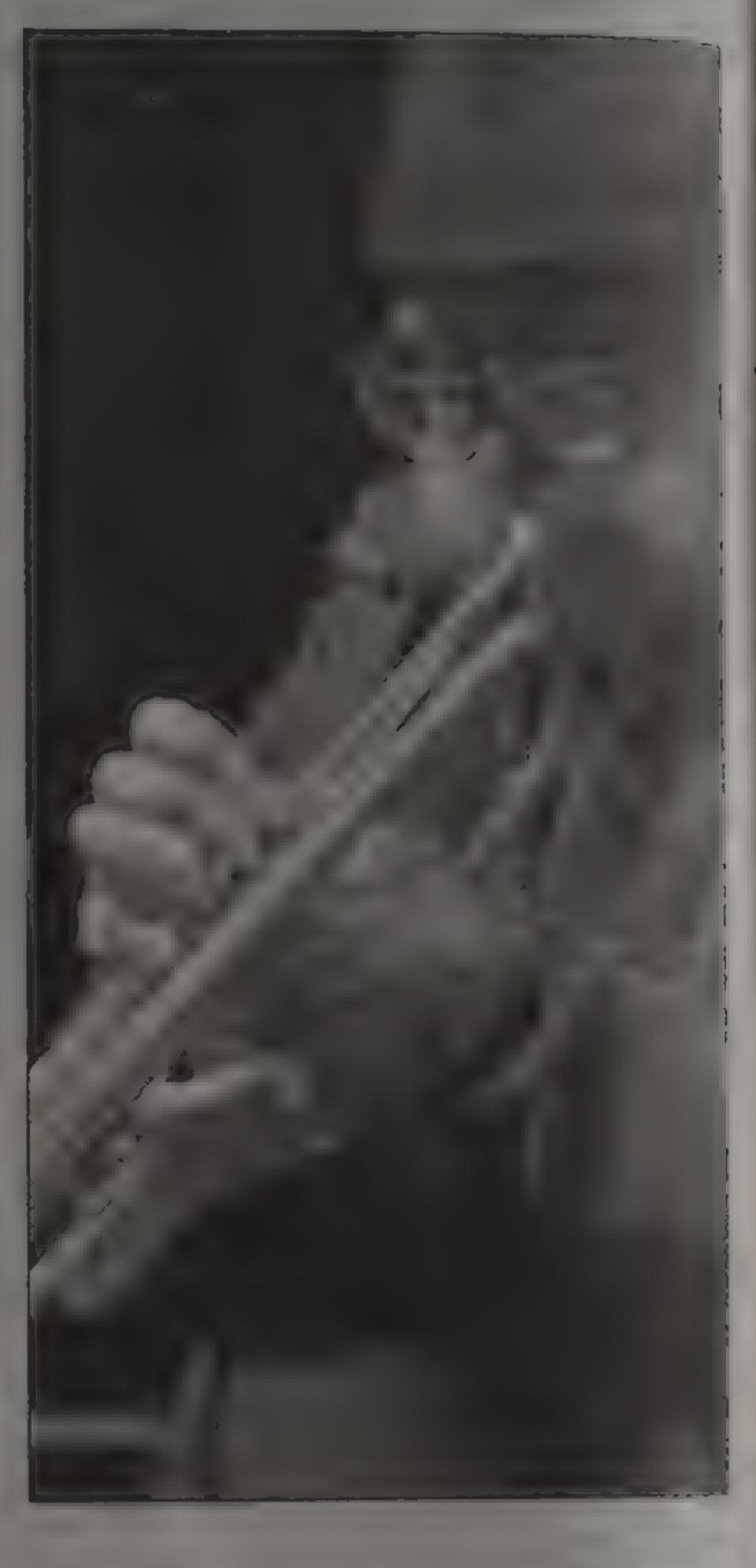












Documentary explores the Sound of free jazz

JOSEF BRAUN / josef@vueweekly.com

T t seems to me that what the

thing you do," says
pazz legend Cecil Taylor,
pontificating eloquently, if
er smatically, even humormakes from behind orb-like shades,
the the ever-present cigarette allowhis restless digits something long
and ivory to stroke and pinch in the
absence of piano keys. This stray
abservation makes for a slyly approprote entrée into a 91-minute discusan and invocation of the spirit of

Ron Mann's Imagine the Sound

31) has been revived and thrown
k into circulation for the event of
25th birthday. Its return to the
3es of popular consciousness is
hing less than a revelation, a
needed, lively, beautiful,
nge, confrontational but effort
seductive document that had
wherewithal to address an enorly important movement in



SAT, MAY 19 & MON, MAY 21 (7 PM);
SUN, MAY 20 (9 PM)

INVANCED BY MANN, BILL SMITH
FEATURING CECIL TAYLOR, ARCHIE SHEPP,

PAUL BLEY, BILL DIXON

METRO OTHERNA STO

American music, one that stingy historians Ken Burns and Wynton Marsalis (who engineered the influential PBS series Jazz) still neglect to acknowledge nearly a half-century after it first began to burble up from West Coast nightclubs.

Eschewing conventional narrative voices or broad contextualization, the film revolves entirely around interviews and performances from Taylor, Archie Shepp, Paul Bley and the lesser-known but no less engaging trumpet player Bill Dixon. The four speak about the development, ambitions and politics of free jazz, with Mann cutting sharply and dynamically between these dialogues and several

roundly inspired musical performances from each (Taylor and Bley solo, Shepp and Dixon with small groups).

TAYLOR, A REAL CHARACTER, is the fullest, purest embodiment of the music in question, characterized by fiery, inventive abstraction, a music informed by a dizzying array of traditions while submitting to the formal rules of none. Taylor dances with his piano, resembling an orgasmic woodpecker at times, a master showman who seems to have music perpetually seeping involuntarily from his pores, his true craft perhaps residing in harnessing all this, giving it shape, refining its distribution.

Shepp is more astute in commentary and accessible in performance
Often in suit and tie and with a pipe cradled upon his elephantine lower lip, Shepp speaks of his reverence for both Malcolm X and Martin Luther King as contrasting philosophical influences, and for Charlie Parker, John Coltrane and Ornette Coleman

as musical predecessors, forces that he fears are losing their rightful presence in African-American culture. (A quarter-century later, this comes off as a sad understalement.)

Bley, wiry, smart and dryly hilarious, tells the best stories of any of the film's subjects, particularly with regards to the early '60s, when all the hippest Los Angeles jazzmen were first freaking out, improvising on themes rather than standard tunes, gradually dismantling several of the touchstone constructs of jazz.

The free scene was not at first very popular. Bley notes how, driving through LA, you always knew when a band was playing in a club because the audience was out standing in the street. Though his body language is far less wildly hieroglyphic than Taylor's, Bley's piano performances possess a cool, curiosity-driven mastery, as though the instrument's possibilities are infinite. (I kind of wish there was more of him in the movie.)

Dixon, rolling a wine glass stem

leather top hat and midnight shades—we never once see the man eyes!—is also witty, and talks casually about the difficulty of maintaining a career in the wilderness of the avant garde. I don't know if it's just because I was least familiar with his music, but I found Dixon's group to deliver son of the film's most startling performances, wonderful, sometimes sinisterly textured rumbles that move like sparks, coals and smoke.

He and his band do just about as good a job as anyone could hope for with regards to turning a few more skeptics onto free jazz, creating music not abrasive but rather quietly assault ing, hinting at some half-remembered melody or maybe just some sound culled from the urban subconscious, back to where it came from

And maybe this is really what the music strives for: the beauty of something touched, marvelled at and utterly ephemeral.

free jazz



Get your fare of fair trade films, here

o matter what stats Black Gold presses through to enliven its brew, the real eyeopener is the stark contrast between the coffee farmers of Ethiopia and the coffee

aficionados of the West.

When we see the rutted dirt road that leads us into the heart of This in a color producting south up against neon-washed streets of London, when we see the cosmopolitan Tadesse Meskela talk about keeping cows and his connection to farming is a said at the morned international barista competitors, it's difficult to reconcile the differences.

One of three films to be shown at the Fair Trade Fair Film Fest, Black Gold is good entry point into the fair trade dialogue. As co-directors and brothers Nick and Marc Francis volley back and forth, from East to West, from oppressive poverty to excessive decadence, we can see all of the rationale in making trade an equitable venture for all parties. It just doesn't make sense for richer countries to not pay a living wage to those serving up The of menuny Because even

toe, it is still a luxury The brothers Francis also take their

though many of us can't seem to

function without our morning cup of

VARIOUS FILMS & DIRECTORS TRANSALTA ARTS BARNS (10330 - 84 AVENUE).

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film to the 2003 WTO talks in Cancun. and in a couple of telling scenes we can figure out why Africa, a continent rich in resources and people, has become the only continent to become

poorer in the last couple of decades. When the talks broke down—many might argue inevitably—American trade representative Robert Zoellick delivered some harsh rhetoric about how the "won't-do countries" created the impasse. It sounded quite frighteningly like the uppity-Negro rhetoric of past American segregation advocates.

When we actually look at the stats the directors are offering up, we learn that if Africa was able to increase its share of world trade to a meagre two per cent (up from one per cent), this would create \$70 billion in much-needed revenue—five times more than is given in aid. We learn that giving the coffee farmers some 30 cents more per kilo, they would be able to do things like send their kids to school, instead of resorting to farming chat, a narcotic.

FILMMAKERS VICKY FUNARI and Sergio De La Torre bring us news from

Tijuana, Mexico in Maquilapolis. Here, we learn about factories set up by multinationals to harvest Mexico's cheap labour.

In ensuring that their subjects speak to their own issues, the directors, however, tried something a little different. The factory workers in the film were involved in the process of making it, from planning to production

The film allows us a peek into the lives of some of these workers and their struggles—not only for a living wage but also for safe working conditions. Carmen, for example, works making TV components and suffers from kidney damage because of the. toxicity of her workplace.

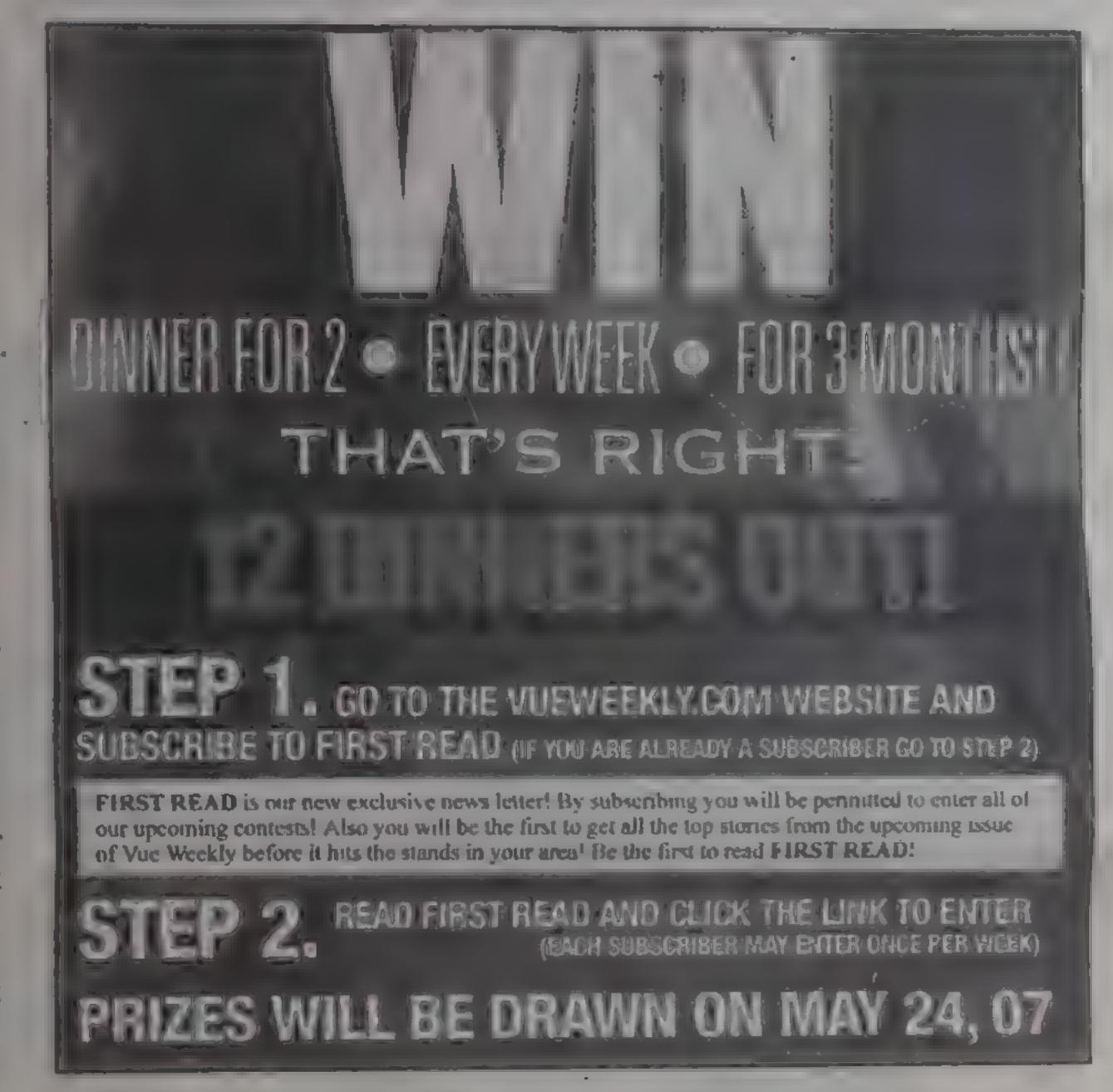
The other incredibly compelling film in the lineup is Workingman's Death by Michael Glawogger. Told in five parts, the Austrian director shows us some of the most dangerous, difficult and thankless work. Watching Ukrainian coal miners extract their load by hand or witnessing the slaughter yards of Nigeria, we are drawn into his visual essay by something far more visceral.

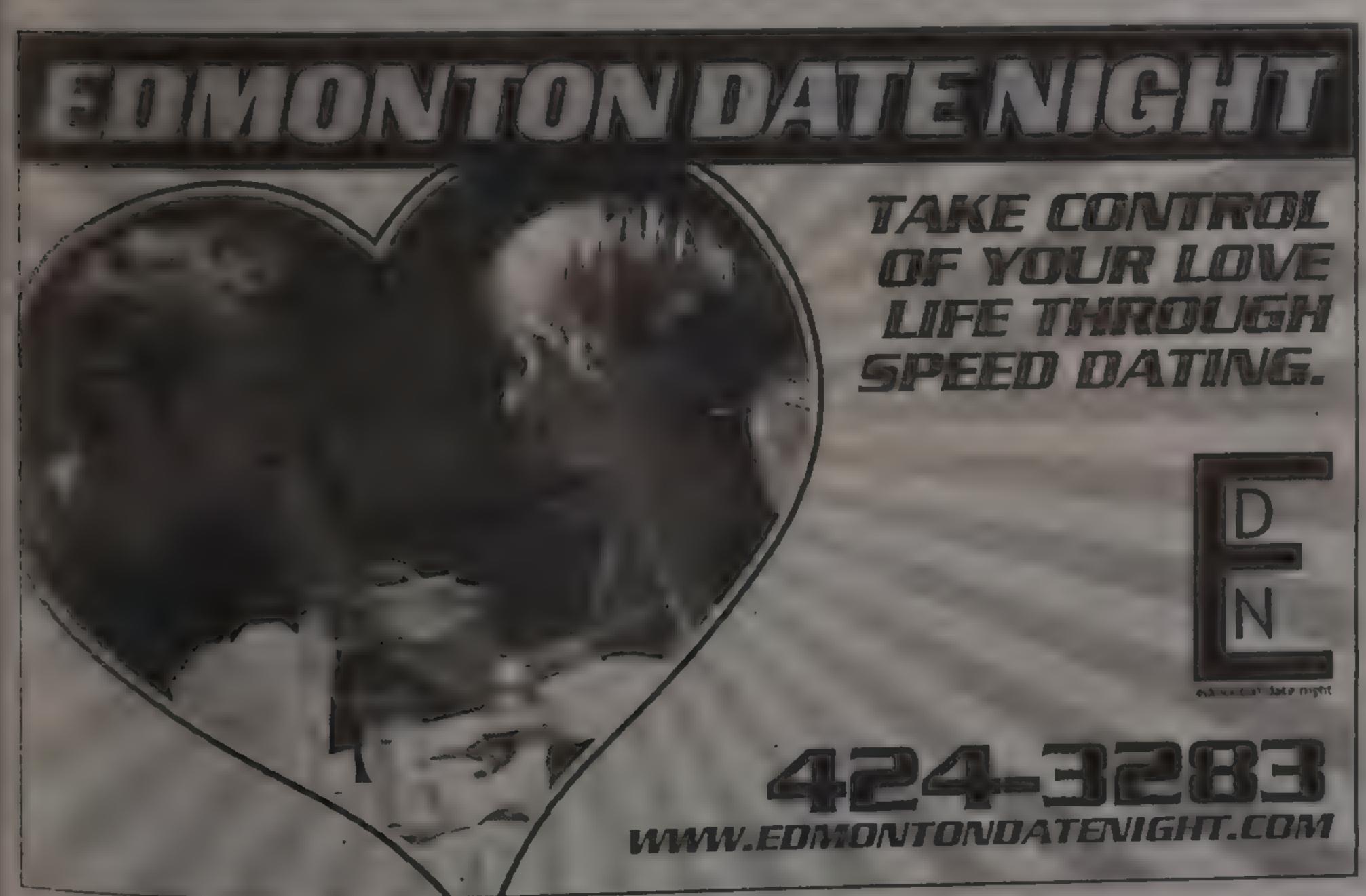
There are no stats and Glawogger offers no polemic, here. You are just given the opportunity to see that perhaps slinging that fair-trade coffee isn't such a bad gig. If you haven't had the opportunity to see this film, you should—it is truly unforgettable. V

FILM

an Oscar nominated film by Heldi Ewing & Rachel Grady Thursday, May 24th 7:00 pm METRO CINEMA Zeldler Hall, Citadel Theatre Complex 9828-101A Ave Jesus Camp follows a group of young children to "Kids" on Fire Summer Camp*, where kids are taught to become dedicated Christian soldlers in God's army. The film is a first-ever look into an intense training ground that recruits born-again Christian children to Decome an active part of America's political future. Panel Discussion to follow with Dittmar Mundel, Associate Director of the Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life Nov.1-4, 2007 www.globalvislonsfestival.com

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Heeping Dogs won't lie—the muth is more interesting, anyway

TITY YILDUYM / carolyn@vueweekly.com

for picking from a movie menu made La of mostly Hollywood L. in you kind of start formy that real people don't always t Putere that matches THIS IS OK but we are most certainly remind-

1 , he from the opening frame of Terrance . . Sleeping Dogs. The Kitchener, , ; com director is on a mission here to ing our gritty mundaneness into focus. nrough some unflattering shots of his home-, own, we're also made to contemplate the vays we try to surround ourselves with familrity-and how that may be killing us slowly.

Odette doesn't spend a lot of time on exposion; instead he allows his actors breathe as nev would in life, giving us a sense of their tories in the way they carry themselves, the ay they speak and what they speak about. As would in our everyday, we are left to specuate and draw our own conclusions about each of the characters.

MAY 20 (7 PM), MON, MAY 2 (9 PM) WARTEN & DIRECTED BY TERRANCE ODETTE STARRING BRIAN STIELAR, TONY ADAH, ALAN K SAPP, JENNIFER DANIELS METRO CINEMA, STO

Our cranky, surly protagonist Mr Gloss (Brian Stillar) is a middle-aged alcoholic who is in the rospital because of his recent diabetes-induced lindness. His younger brother Eddy (Alan K app) comes by to tell him that he's going to a ang-term care facility and that his trusty old log was taken to the city pound to be put down.

The news of his dog puts Mr Gloss in an ven more belligerent frame of mind and he eaves the hospital on a mission find his dog and a drink, and not necessarily in that order. Panhandling for money—"alms for the blind," e repeats outside of a record shop-Mr Gloss akes enough money for a bottle of whiskey before he sets off in a cab for the dog pound

Meanwhile, orderly Thomas (Tony Adah) sets but to try and bring Mr Gloss back to the hospial. Eddy, after all, was coming back to take his prother to another facility and out of their hands.

It doesn't take too long before Thomas finds 'r Gloss, and what follows is a meandering purney through the streets of Kitchener—simiar in form to Odette's feature debut Heater, here the characters wander the wintry streets of Winnipeg

PLOT IS SIMPLE, and the story unfolds quite 10 wly. And while I know that Odette intended Mering Dogs to be a no-batteries-required ndie film, as well as a slice of the everyday, the a tion, at times, is painfully slow.

That said, however, Odette certainly has an No for the small things, making some of the enes full of a quiet and unassuming genius.



Through his actors, he shows us far more often than tells us, and this is an utter joy to watch.

Stillar is a huge part of this accomplishment. Somehow he is able to create a totally unlikeable character, infuse him some of the worst parts of a life-time alcoholic, and yet evoke sympathy from his audience. And he does this without breathing an ounce of sentimentality into Mr Gloss.

Watching Stillar try and negotiate the sidewalk as a newly blind man, watching his hands dance around the cap of his whiskey bottle, trying to hold back-watching him fully inhabit his role—is probably worth the price of admission.

Thomas, on the other hand, is woefully underused. His father has just passed away, and he is avoiding the multiple messages left on his machine. We don't need a lot of explanation here, and we do get some in the form of a Mr Gloss rant ("my father was a son-of-abitch"), but I do think that Thomas could have used some of the same camera character study that Mr Gloss had. Adah, I believe, would have been completely up to the challenge.

There is a sequence where he is allowed to shine, however, when Mr Gloss and Thomas are lost in the windy streets of the suburbs. Sure, it's an old film trick—to put unlikely characters into an unlikely setting—but Odette manages to say so much here.

First, there is this quiet quality—different from the other roadway scenes—that infuses the film with a combination eeriness, bizarreness and despair. I don't know that I've seen a film that depicts the suburbs quite so aptly (to my mind, anyway). But when Thomas asks a mother, out for a walk with a stroller, for directions out of the 'burbs, the whole sentiment is trumped up. She wants to be friendly, but she can't wait to get away from this tall immigrant and fiveo'clock-shadow drunk, and Thomas can't seem to absorb her detailed directions (you know how all the streets are directionless).

The exclamation mark on this sequence is when Thomas tries to get water for Mr Glossto stop him from drinking his whiskey and causing a diabetic reaction. The helping hand he seeks is not forthcoming, which further strips away the façade of the orderly suburban world.

In the end, Odette forces us to see behind the smoke and mirrors of life, to see that both people and places are not always what they seem, and that we don't need matching furniture to help us feel in control-we need each other. V

Waitress serves up a fruitful slab of rom-com

JOSEF BRAUN / josef@vueweekly.com

omewhere down South there's a small town diner where the resident trio of leggy waitresses wear cute blue uniforms and serve hot coffee and otherworldly pies in filtered sunshine.



One's stuck in a marriage with an invalid, another is stalked by a tax-auditing, spontaneous poetry-spouting elf, a third, our heroine, is married to an oppressive, insensitive bully with nice hair and a car alarm that won't shut off. She secretly plans an escape but is unexpectedly thwarted by the oldest form of sabotage in the history of male/female negotiations: she's pregnant.

The folksy quaintness and tendency toward caricature ingrained in the premise of Waitress, the third and final feature from the late actress/auteur Adrienne Shelley, is pleasingly offset by Shelley's remarkable gift for crafting deadpan farce, by her fruitful impatience with the dramatic conventions she's clearly

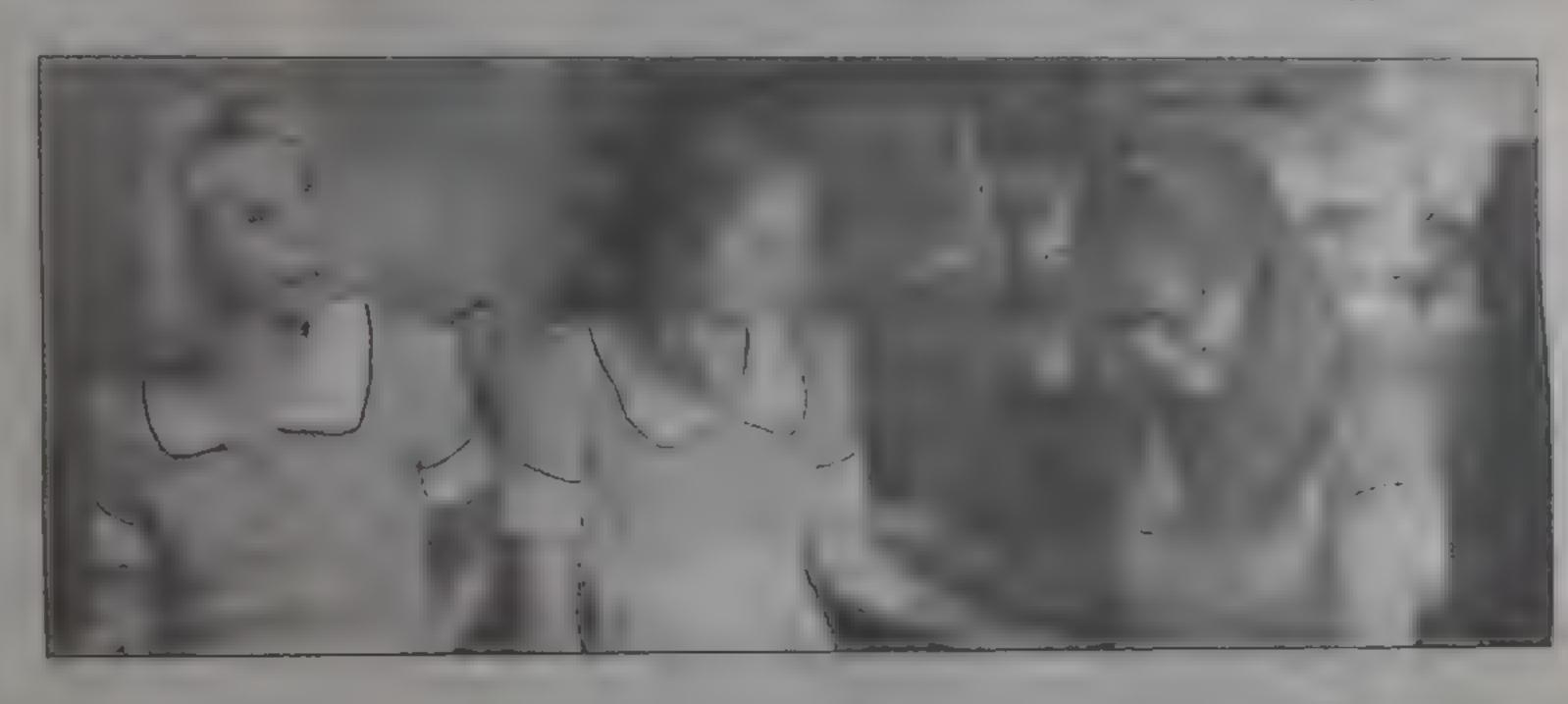
SHELLEY

in the well-tread region of romantic comedy the love interest arrives, utterly undisguised, in the first scenes of Waitress. Turns out Jenna's OB-GYN is a new guy in town, a tall, handsome gent with stunned eyes Jenna curtly describes as "Weird. Nervous. From Connecticut."

Dr Pomatter (Nathan Fillion) seems either smitten, distracted or very afraid of Jenna, and probably all three. Shelley invokes the screwball tradition of having her lovers begin their courtship from a place of hostility, and in the capable hands of Russell and Fillion, both actors beautifully discerning the difference between tension and stiffness, this technique does indeed send sparks flying. Goofy sparks, but sparks nonetheless.

Shelley, who also plays Dawn, the stalked waitress, started her film acting career in Hall Hartley's first features The Unbelievable Truth and Trust. Hartley's influence on Shelley clearly lingers in the theatrically stylized dialogue, humorously jarring rhythms and unfussy shot sequences. Waitress is nowhere near as ambitious as Hartley's more bizarre, labyrinthine narratives, but it does echo the emotional immediacy and formal simplicity of Hartley's most appealing work, its interests resting firmly in first cleverly complicating and then resolving a clearly drawn character dilemma

There are, however, some disappointments



endeared toward, and by the daffy lightness of her approach to gender tensions and working class desperation. There's a warm, genuinely eccentric spirit to Waitress that I think transcends its hokum, making it a modest but extremely charismatic—and funny comedy.

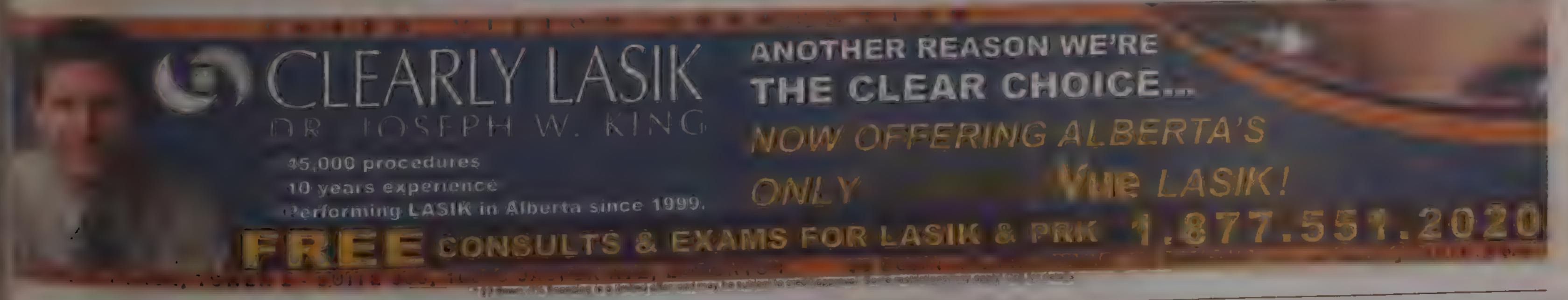
The pregnant waitress is Jenna (Keri Russell), an undisputed "pie genius" who cooks up new recipes daily in her fevered, unhappy mind, concocting unlikely combinations with even more unlikely names, like "I Don't Want Earl's Baby Pie." Thus pie-baking, that cornerstone of traditional homemaking, is subverted in such a way that it gives form and expression to Jenna's disdain for a long-stale marriage, one she seems virtually paralyzed by

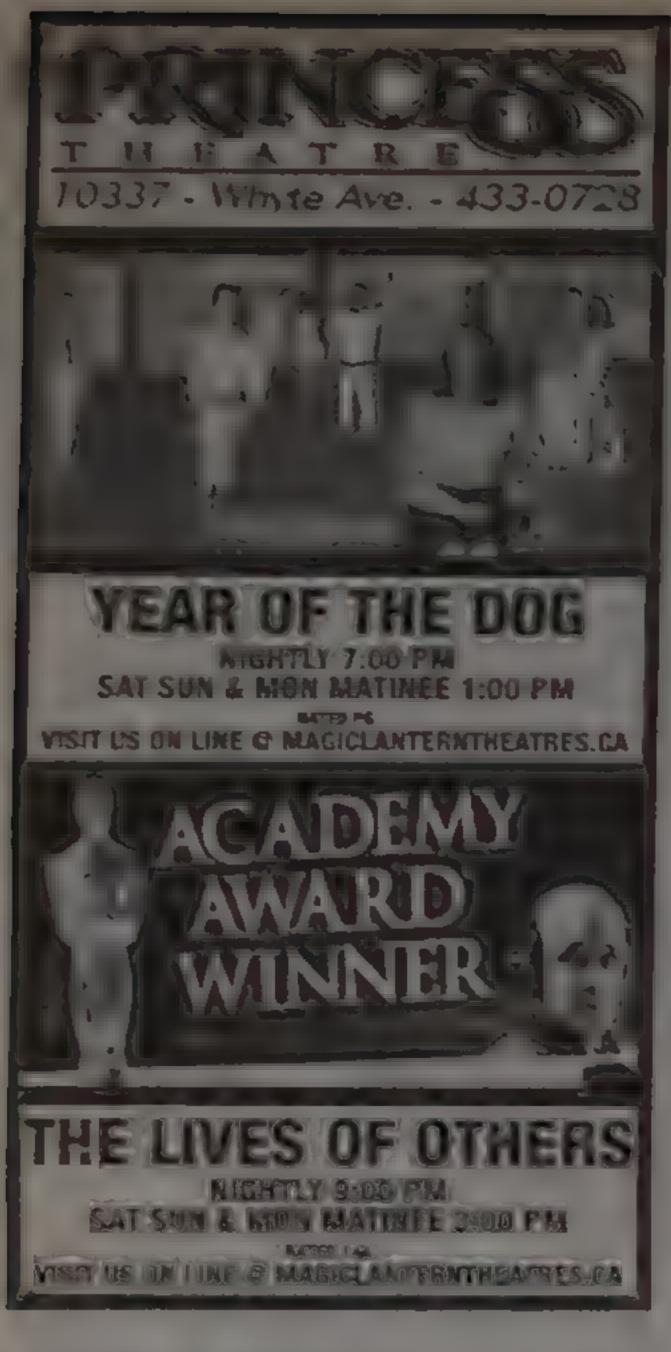
SHELLEY WASTES NO TIME in staking her claim

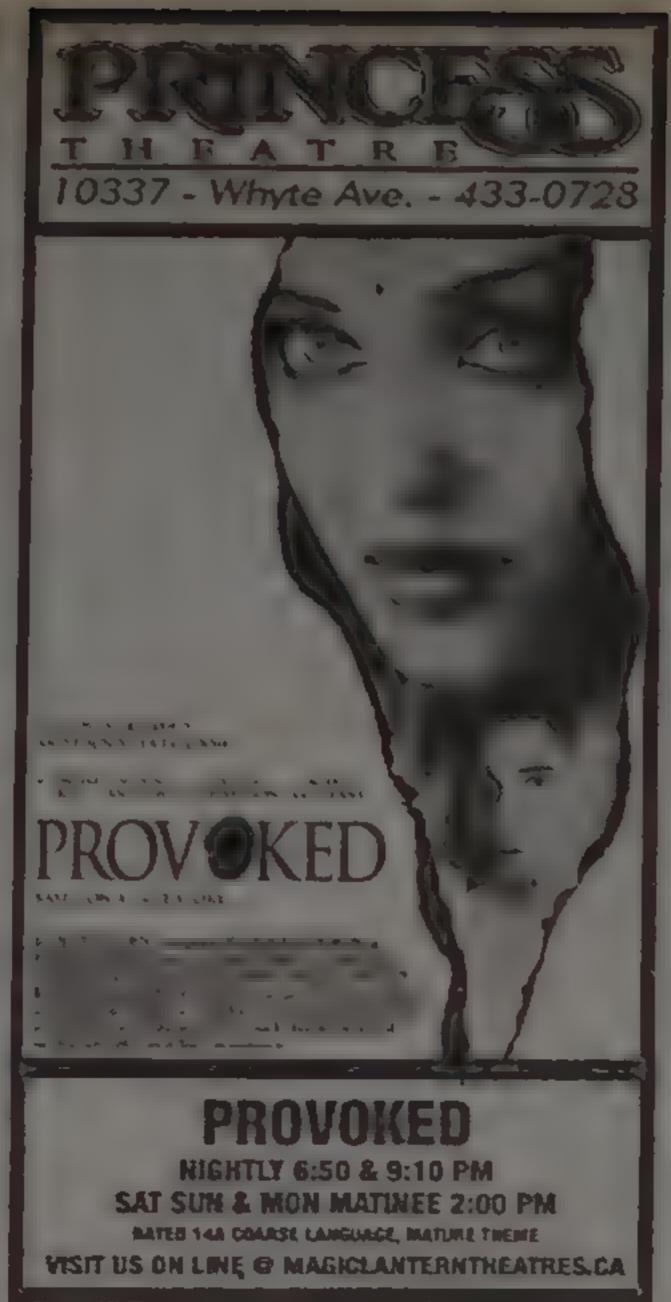
in the areas last at the thula and hu band, poorly conceived to begin with the final just shoved aside in a way that feels ... tacile as Jenna's inevitable revelation feels or gank

Yet the more fantasy-like aspects of the film's final moments are surprisingly poignant, informed by the filmmaker's broader sense of the heartfelt responsibility and sheer joy that arrives with the miracle of childbirth. And I'd be lying if I said that Shelley's ghost didn't have something to do with all this: her pointless apparently random murder cut short the life of a woman not only beloved as an indie ingenue but as a wife and mother. Not to mention as a writer/director

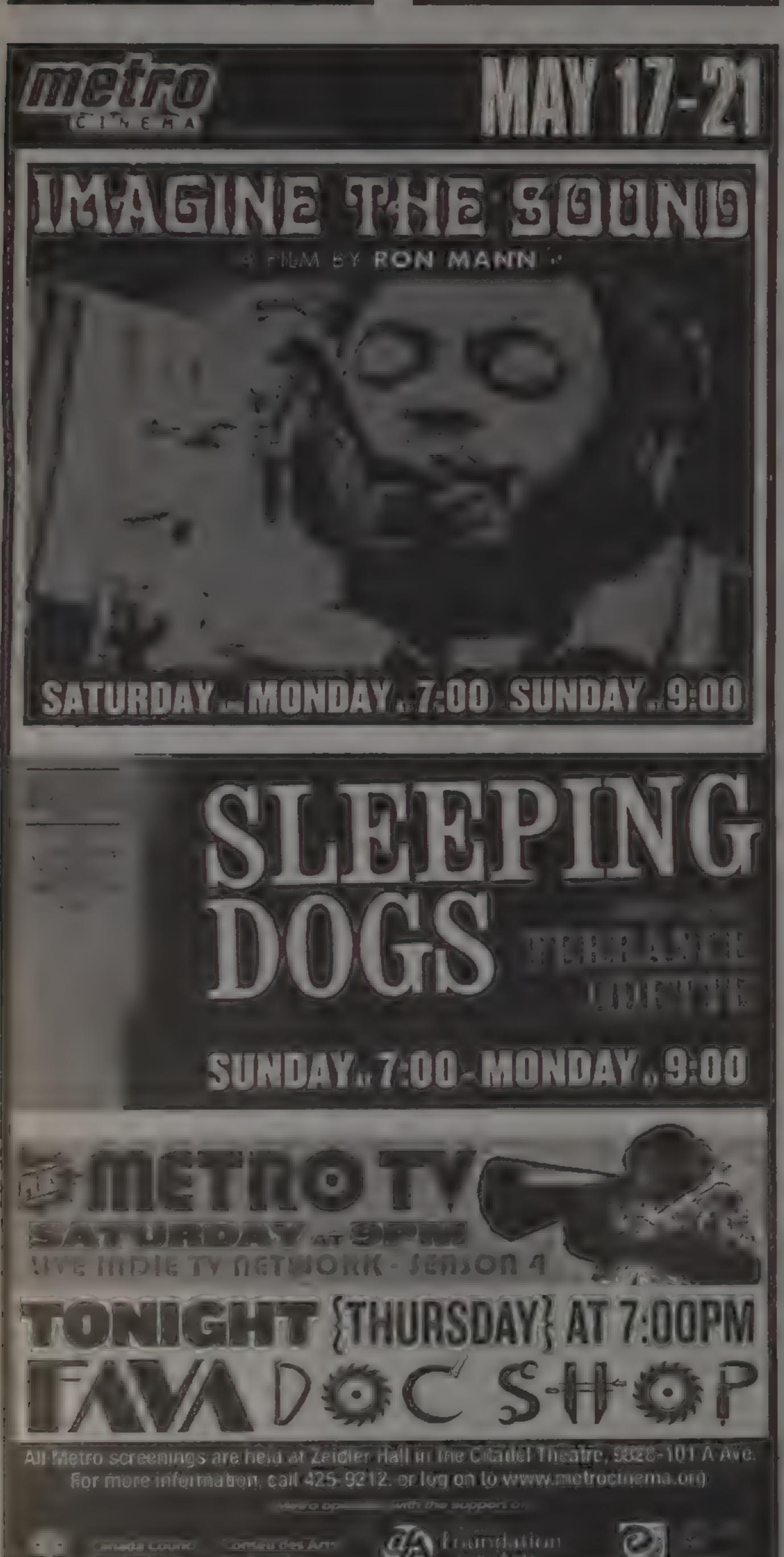
With Waitress, Shelley appears to have found her voice in an openhearted work that should have been a beginning of something, not a finale. V









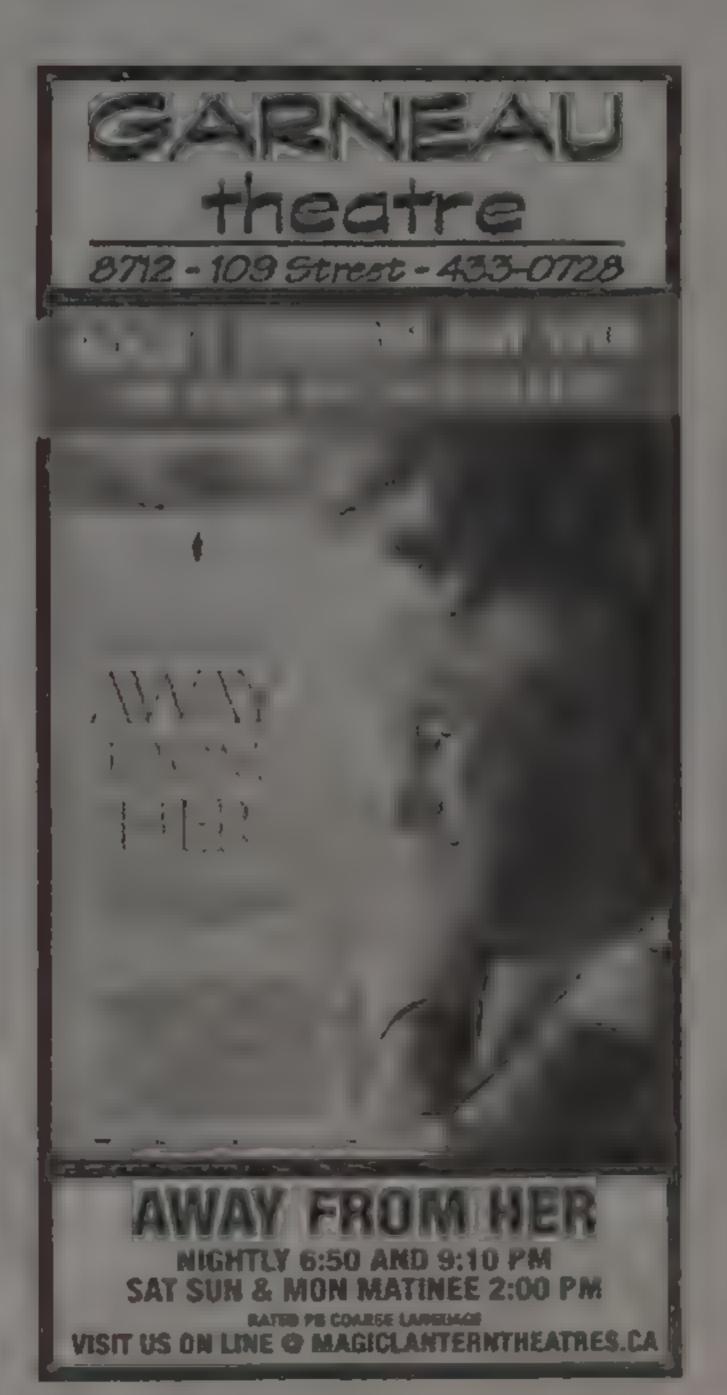


28 Week Later, it's still all the rage

OMAR MOUALLEM / omar@vueweekly.com

Since 28 Days Later there's been an influx of zombie movies. What they learned from Danny Boyle's stylish flesh-eaters was that in order to sur-

vive in zombie movie land, you've got to do it differently, hence films like Shaun of the Dead, Fido and Plan-



28 WEEKS LATER

DIRECTED BY JUAN CARLOS FRESHADILLO
WRITTEN BY ROWAN JOFFRE, JESÚS OLMO,
EL LAVISNE, FRESHADILLO
STARRING ROBERT CARLYLE,
CATHERINE MCCORMACK, IDRIS ELBA

A Romero stepped into new shoes with his conscionable zombies in Land of the Dead. But now the rage is back to reclaim your brains in 28 Weeks Later.

Five years of audience anticipation are compressed into the first 28 weeks—after the infected have all starved to death. The British mainland is contained and occupied by American-led NATO forces. They fastidiously patrol and rule London, often doing more harm than good. (Film critics are debating whether this is allegorical of the Iraqi occupation as if the symbols are inconspicuous. If you don't see the parallels, you're blind.)

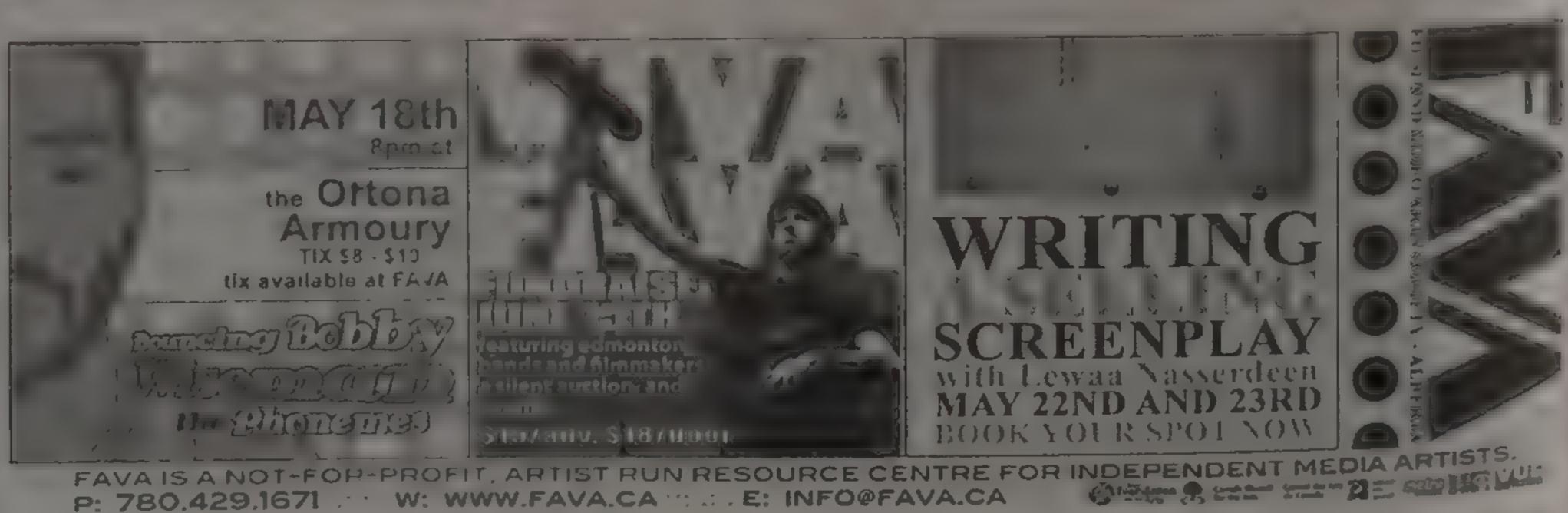
Robert Carlyle plays Don, a survivor of the initial outbreak. He's guilt-ridden for having enclosed his wife in a room with zombies to ensure his survival. He knew that either she was doomed or they both were because, when dealing with the sprinting undead, there is no power in numbers. Family only slows you down.

When his son and daughter return from a refugee camp, he lies to them about their mother's death. They're just happy dad's alive, but eventually grow bored of the ghost city. The, take the first Vespa they see and drive to their old home so they can jump on the trampoline and experience other novelties of their childhood

AND THEN THEY FIND MOM. Not dead with her brain's hanging out. Not ray aging the room for flesh. Just emained ed, alive and very human. While she is a carrier of the virus, something unique gives her immunity. But all it takes for the virus to transfer to someone not immune is a kiss from say, her husband.

many 28 Days Later viewers mercall feeling discombobulated by the film's final act. When the story jolted from the land of the living dead to the land of Rambo, many moviegous were left behind and forced to hur riedly catch up. 28 Weeks Luter improves on this and keeps the tor consistently between both martial and zombie law.

Original fans may also be resistent to 28 Weeks because it has no artistic ties to its predecessor. But Juan to los Fresnadillo was not hired whim. The director's chair could have been propped up for anyone soft familiar, but instead they gamble and hit the jackpot. He minces directing shots so intense that it's often hard to tell who the real victum is the dead guy on screen, or the such who's cleaning up after the the you've left in your seat.



LE CORE THE END OF THE WORLD Bobby the Phonemes perform new 1. 1 works using stide projectors, The deal of the second instruments. THE " UKA ARYOURY, FRI, MAY 18 (8 PM)

FAIR TRADE FAIR FILM FEST A selection times that explore the : surrounding poverty and fair trade. Carpton Nikod, m's article on page 13 THE ANIA ARTS BARMS, SAT, MAY 19 Black Gold 17 29 PH) A1. 7.11/12/01/15 (2:30 PM); Working-1 1 2 00 7 th (Fill)

FAVA DOC SHOP A collection of student werk from a three-part documentary Urse ZEIZLER HALL, THE CITADEL; THU, MAY 17 (7 PM)

MAGNETHE SOUND Jazzelagends Paul Anche Shepp and Ceril Taylor are featured in Grass director Ron Mann's exploration of the free jazz movement, Read Josef Braun's review on page 38. ZEIDLER HALL, THE CITADEL; SAT, MAY 19 & MON, MAY 21 (7 PM); SUN, MAY 20 (7 PM)

METRO TV The popular live reality show featuring local filmmakers enters its fourth season, promising more pilots and episodes. ZEIDLER HALL, THE CITADEL; SAL MAY 18 (9 PM)

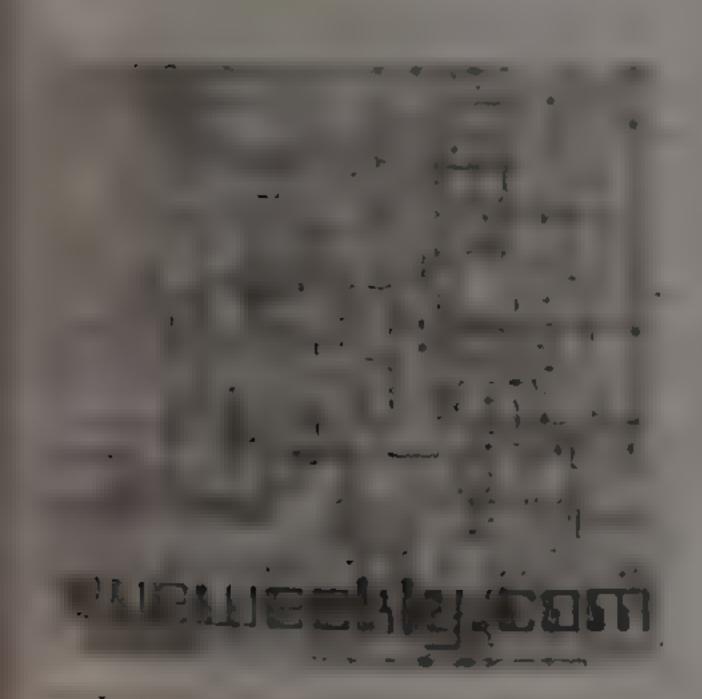
THE ROCKY HORAGO PICTURE SHOW

1im Curry, Susan Sarandon and Barry Bostwick star in Shock Treatment director Jim Sharman's cult classic in which a young couple happens upon a house full of bizarreness after their car breaks down, GARNEAU THEATRE, SAT, MAY 19 (11:55 PM)

SHREK THE THIRD The voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphey and Cameron Diaz star in Shrek co-directors Chris Miller and Raman Hui's animated comedy in which the loveable ogre tries to get out of being the king of Far, Far Away.

SLEEPING DOGS Brian Stillar, Alan K Sapp and Jennifer Daniels star in Saint Monica director Terrance Odette's drama about a middle-aged alcoholic who escapes from hospital to see his sick dog one last time. Read Carolyn Nikodym's THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O THE WALL STOLEN LAND MAY 21 (9 PM.)

WALTERSS Ken Passell, Namen Fillion and Cheryl Hines star in The Shadows of Bub and Zelda director Adrienne Shelly's rom-com about an unhappily married Waitress who falls for a newcomer. Read Josef Braun's review on page 41.



All showtimes are subject to change at any time. Please contact theatre for confirmation.

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SPIDERMAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not suitable for younger children) Sat Sun Mon 1:30; Frl Sat Sun 8 50 9 25; Mon-Thu 8:00

SHREK THE THIRD (PG) Sat Sun Mon 1:30; Fri Sat Sun 6 60, 9 25; Mon-Thu 8:00

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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG. may frighten young children) Sat-Mon 11:35; Daily 2:15, 5.05, 7:50, 10:16; late night show 12:20; Kids Kabin Fever: 2:15

REIGN OVER ME (14A, meture themes, coarse language) Sat-Mon 11 00; Daily 1:35, 4 10, 7 00, 9.35, late right show 12:05

300 (18A, gory scenes) Sat-Mon 11:10; Daily 1.50, 4 30, 7 10, 9:45; late night show 12:15

FIREHOUSE DOG (PG) Sat-Mon 11:25; Dally 2:00, 4:40, 7.25, 9:50; late night show 12.20

LUCKY YOU (PG, coarse language) Sat-Mon 11:05, Daily 1 40, 4:15, 7:05, 9:40; late night show 12:10

TMNT (PG) Sat-Mon 10:55; Daily 1:10, 3:05, 5:15, 7:30, 10:05, late right show 11:55

THE REAPING (14A, frightening scenes) Sat-Mon 11:45; Daily 2:10, 4:35, 7-15, 9:20; late night show 11.25

GHOST RIDER (14A) Sat-Mon 11:15; Daily 1:55, 4.25, 6.55, 9.15; late night show 11:35

MUSIC AND LYRICS (PG) Sat-Mon 11:30, Daily 2:15, 4:45, 7:20, 9:30; late night show

PREMONITION (PG, Inghtening scenes not recommended for young children) Sat-Mon 11.40; Deily 2:05, 4 20, 7.40, 10:10; late night show 12 25

ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES (G) Sal-Mon 11:50; Daily 2.20, 4 50, 7:45, 10:00; late night show 12 00

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG, not recommended for young children) Sat-Mon 11:20; Daily 1:45, 5:00, 7:35, 9:55; lete night show

May as 12 130 Ave 50 St. 472-9773

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REIGN OVER ME (14A, mature themes, coarse language) Sat Mon 10:65; Daily 1.20, 4:10, 6:55, 9:35; Fri-Sat late night show 12:00

300 (18A, gory scenes) Sat Mon 11.16, Daily 1.50, 4.40, 7:20, 9.50; Fri-Sat late night show 12:05

NORBIT (PG, crude content, sexual content, not recommended for children) Sat Mon 11:05. Doily 2:00, 4.45, 7.40, 10:00; Fn-Sat late riight show 12 10

FIREHOUSE DOG (PG) Sat Mon 11:10; Deily 1:35, 4:20, 7:00, 9:20; Fn-Sat lete night show 11:40

LUCKY YOU (PG, coarse language) Sat Mon-10:45; Daily 1:15, 4:05, 6:45, 9:25; Frt-Sat late night show 11.50

TMNT (PG) Sat Mon 11:05; Daily 1.10, 3.10, . 5:05, 7:10, 9 15; Frt-Sat late night show 11:35

PREMONITION (PG, Inghterzing scenes not recommended for young children) Sat Mon 11:20; Daily 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 9.40; Fri-Sat late rught show 12:15

THE LOOKOUT (14A, coerse language) Sat Mon 11:35; Dally 2:05, 4:25, 6:50, 9:10; Fri-Sat late right show 11:20

THE REAPING (14A, frightening scenes) Sat Mon 10:50; Daily 1:25, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45, Fri-Sat late night show 12 05

GHOST RIDER (14A) Sat Mon 11:00; Daily 1:30, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30; Fri-Sat late riight show

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CITY CENTRE 9

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SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fri-Thu 12:00, 1:00, 2:20, 3:30, 4:45, 6.30, 7:15, 9:00, 9.40

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not

recommended for young children) Frl-Wed 12.10, 12 40, 3.20, 3 50, 8 40, 7:10 9 45, 10:10; Thu 12:10, 12 40, 3 20, 3 50, 6 40, 9 45

WAITRESS (PG, sexual content, mature) themes) Fri-Thu 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:35

FRACTURE (14A) Fri-Thu 12:50, 3 40, 6:45 THE EX (PG, coarse language, not recom-

mended for children) Fri-Thu 9:20

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse language) Fri-Tue 12.30, 3.10, 7:20, 10:00, wed 12:30, 3:10, 10:00; Thu 12:30, 3:10

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory scenes) Fri-Thu 1 20, 4 00, 7:30, 9 50

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content) Fri-Thu 12 20, 3 00, 6 50, 9 30

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no passes) Thu 8 00, 8 30

CLAREVIEW 10

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THE EX (PG, coarse language, not recommended for children) Fri-Wed 9:10

NEXT (14A) Fri-Mon 12.40, 3.20, 6.45; Tue-Wed 3.20, 6.45, This 4 15, 9 10

DISTURBIA (14A) Fri-Mon 1-15, 3 55, 6 50, 9 20; Tue-Wed 3 55, 8 50, 9 20; Thu 3 55,

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children) Fri-Mon 12:20, 3:10, 7:10, 10:10, 12 50, 3 40, 6:40, 9 40, 1:30, 4 45, 8 30; Tue-Wed 3:10, 7:10, 10:10, 3:40, 6 40, 9 40, 4 45, 8 30; Thu 3:40. 4.45, 8.40, 8.30, 9.40

SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fri-Mon 12:30, 4:00, 7:00, 9 30, 1:00, 3 30, 7.30, 10 00, 12 00, 2.30, 4.30, 6.30, 9:00; Tue-Wed 4 00 7 00, 9:30, 3 30, 7:30, 10:00, 4 30, € 30, 9:00; Thu 4:00, 7:00, 9:30, 3:30, 7:30. 10:00, 4:30, 6:30, 8.50

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory acenes) Fri-Mon 1.20, 4 10, 7.25, 9:55; Tue-Wed 4 10, 7:25, 9.55; Thu 4-10, 7.20, 9:50

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content) Fri-Mon 1:10, 3:50, 7:20, 9:50; Tue-Wed 3 50, 7:20, 9:50; Thu 3 50, 7:10, 9:30

199 PRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN; AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no passes) Thu 8 00, 8 30

DGALAXY-SHERWOOD PARK

2020 Shanapag Onre. A15_0150

SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fri-Mon 12:15, 12:30, 1:00, 3:15, 3:30, 4:00, 6:40, 7 00, 7 30, 9-15, 9 45, 10 15, Tue-Thu 6 40, 7.00 7.30, 9.15, 9.45, 10.15

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory scenes) Fri-Mon 1:20, 4:25, 7:25, 10:20; Tue-Thu 7:25, 10:20

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content) Fri-Mon 12 50, 3 50, 6.45, 9 30; Tue-Thu 6:45, 9:30

THE EX (PG, coarse language, not recommended for children) Fri-Thu 10:25

SPIDER-MAN 3 (pg. frightening scenes, not recommended for young children) Frl-Mon 12:00, 12:45, 3:00, 3:45, 6:30, 7:15, 10:00, 10:30; Tue-Thu 6:30, 7:15, 10:00, 10:30

FRACTURE (14A) Fri-Thu 9:40

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory acenes, coarse language) Fri-Mon 1.10, 4.10, 7.20; Tue-Thu 7.20

MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) Fri-Set Mon 1:15, 3.40, 7:10; Sun 1:15, 3:40; Tue-Thu 7:10

WWE: JUDGMENT DAY (Classification not available) Sun 6.00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no passes) Thu B.TOUT

GARNEAU

8712-109 St. 433-0728

AWAY FROM HER (PG, copree language) Daily 6:50, 9:10; Sat Sun Mon 2:00

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (14A) Set, May 19 11:59pm

GATEWAY 8

2950 Calgary Trail, 436-6977

AMAZING GRACE (PG) Fri Mon-Thu 6:50, 9:25; Sat-Sun 1:00, 3:35, 6:50, 9.25

PROVOKED (14A, coerse language, mature

theme) Frt Mon-Thu 7:00, 9 40; Sal-Sun 1 15, 4 00, 7:00, 9 40

BLADES OF GLORY (PG, crude content, not recommended for young children) Ed Mon-Thu

6:55, 9.20; Sat-Sun 1:40, 3 55, 6:55, 9:20 WILD HOGS (PG, coarse language, not recommended for young children) Fri Mon-Thu

THE INVISIBLE (14A) Fri-Thu 7:15, 9:30

7.05, 9:35; Sat-Sun 1:45, 4:15, 7.05, 9:35

NEXT (14A) Frt Mon-Thu 7:10, 9:45; Sat-Sun 1 35, 4 05, 7.10, 9 45

THE EX (PG, coarse language, not recommended for children) Fri Mon-Thu 6:45, Sat 1 20, 3 30, 6 45; Sun 1 20, 6 45

LIFE IN A., METRO (14A, sexual content, mature themes, subtitled) Fri-Sat Mon-Thu 8 45; Sun 3 30, 8:45

IN THE LAND OF WOMEN (PG, coarse language, mature theme) Fri Mon-Thu 7.20, 9 50, Sat-Sun 1 50, 4:10, 7 20, 9 50

MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) Sat-Sun 1 25,

GRANDIN THEATRE

Grandin Mall, Sir Winston Churchill Ave. St. Albert, 458-9822

MEET THE ROBINSONS (G)Daily 1:15, 3.15.

5 10, 7.15 HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse lan-

guage) Daily 9 15 THE INVISIBLE (14A) Daily 1.05, 3:10, 5.25,

7.35, 9 35 SHREK THE THIRD (PG) Sat Sun 12.00,

Deily 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 9:50 SPIDER MAN 3 (PG, frightening screen, not renommended for young children) Daily 1 10,

SHREK THE THIRD (PG) Daily 1 00, 3 00. 5 00, 7,00, 9 00

3:55, 6:30, 9:10

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children) Thu Advance Screening; 8.30

TLEDUC CINEMAS

4762-50 St. Leduc, 986-2728

SPIDERMAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not

recommended for young children) Daily 6.45.

9:40; Sat-Mon 12 45, 3 40 SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Dally

7:00, 9 15; Fri-Mon 1:00, 3:20

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse lenguage) Daily 7:05, 9 25; Fri-Mon 1:05 3 25

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content) Daily 6:55, 9.20; Sat-Mon 12.55, 3:20 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children) Thu 8:00

Magic Lantern-Campose:

Camrose, 780-608-2144

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightlening scenes, not recommended for young children) Daily 7.30, Sat Sun Mon 1 50

SHREK THE THIRD (PG) Daily 7 00 9:15; Sat Sun Mon 2:05

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexuacontent) Daily 6.55 9 10; Sat Sun Mon 2.00

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse language) Fri-Wed 6:50 9:05; Sat Sun Mon 1 55

SHARKWATER (PG, disturbing content) Daily 7:05 9:00; Sat Sun Mon 2:10

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children) Thu 8:00

IMAGIC LAMERN SPRICE GROVE

205 Main St. Spruce Grove, 972-2332

SPIDERMAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children) Daily 7:30, Sat Sun Mon 2:00

METRO CINEMA

9828-101A Ave. Citadel Theetre. 425-9212 BEFORE THE END OF THE WORLD (STC)

Em STEE

IMAGINE THE SOUND (STC) Sat Mon 7 00. Sun 9 00

METRO TV, SEASON 4 (STC) Sat 9.00 SLEEPING DOGS (STC) Sun 7:00 Mon 9.00

GLOBAL VISIONS PRESENTS: JESUS CAMP (STC) Thu 7.00

LNORTH EDMONTON CINEMAS:

14231 137th Avenue, 732-2223

SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fri-Thu 11.30, 12.00, 12.30, 1.00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:00, 6:30, 7.15, 7 45, 8:00, 8 30, 9:00, 9:45, 10:15, 10:40

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory scenes) Fri-Thu 1.50, 4:50, 7.40, 10:35

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual) content) Fri-Mon Wed-Thu 12,50, 3:50, 6:45 9:20; Tue 3:50, 6:45, 9:20; star and strollers Tue 1 (3.)

THE EX (PG, coarse language, not recommended for children) Fri-Thu 1:10, 6:50

DELTA FARCE (PG, language may offend, not recommended for children) Fri-Thu 4 10, 9:10

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightening scenes, not recommended for young children) Fri-Sat Mon-Wed 11 45, 12 45, 1 45, 2 15, 3 15, 4 15, 5:10, 6.16, 7:00, 7.30, 8.15, 9:30, 10:00, 10 30; Sun 11:45, 12 45, 1:45, 2:15, 3 15 4.15, 5.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.15, 9.30, 10,00 10 30, Tue 11 45, 1:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:10, 6 15, 7 00, 7.30, 8 15, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30; Thu 11 45, 12 45, 1:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4 15, 5:10, 6.15, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:00; Star and Strotters: Tue 1 00

FRACTURE (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40, 3:40, 6:40,

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse lan-

guage) Fri-Thu 4 20, 9 50 DISTURBIA (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20, 7 20

WWE: JUDGMENT DAY (Classification not available) Sun 6 00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence: not recommended for young children, no passes) Thu

PRINCESS!

10331-42 400 43-0774

YEAR OF THE DOG (PG) Daily 7.00; Sat Sun Mon 1:00

THE LIVES OF OTHERS (14A) Daily 9 00; Sat Sun Mon 3:00

PROVOKED (14A, coarse language, mature theme) Daily 6 50, 9:10; Sat Sun Mon 2:00

ESCOTIABANK THEATRE WEM:

WEM. 8302 170 St. 44 2100

SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes, digital) Fri-Mon 11 15, 11 45, 12 45, 1.15, 2 00, 2 30, 3 45, 4,15, 4:45, 5,15, 6.45, 7:15, 7.45, 8 15, 9:30, 10:15, 10:30, 10 45; Tue-Wed 12 45, 1 15, 2 00, 2:30, 3 45, 4:15, 4 45, 5:15, 6.45. 7.15, 7 45, 8.15, 9:30, 10.15, 10:30, 10 45. Fri-Thu 12 45, 3 45, 6 46, 9 30; Thu 12 45. 1:15, 2 00, 2 30, 3 45, 4.15, 4 45, 5.15, 7.15,

7:45, 8:15, 10:16, 10:30, 10:45 SPIDER-MAN \$ (PG, frightening acenes, not recommended for young children, no passes. digital) Frt-Sat Mon 11:30, 12:30, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:40, Sun 11.30, 12 30, 1:00, 3.00, 4:00, 6 30, 7 30, 9 45, 10 40, Tue-Thu 12.30, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00

4 30, 6:30, 7.30, 8:00, 9:45, 10:40 SPIDER-MAN 3: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG, hightening scenes, not recommended for young children, digital, IMAX) Fri-Thu 12:00. 3 30, 7 00, 10 00

GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content, digital) Fri-Tue Thu 1:40, 4:20, 6:50. 9 40, wed 1 00, 4 20, 6 50, 9 40

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory scenes, digital)

FRACTURE (14A, digital) Fri-Thu 3 50, 7:10 HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse lan-

Fri-Thu 1:20, 4 50, 7,40, 10.20

guage, digital) Eri-Thu 12:40, 9:50 DISTURBIA (14A, DIGITAL) En-Thu 12 50, 4 10, 7 20, 10 10

WWE: JUDGMENT DAY (classification not eveilable, digital) Sun 6 00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no passes, digital) Thu 8 00

South Edmonton Common

1525-99 St. 438-8585 SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fri-Sun

11:15, 11:45, 12 15, 12:45, 1:15, 1 45, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6 15, 6 45, 7 15, 7 30, 8 00, 8 30, 9 00, 9 30, 10:00, 10:15, 10:45; Mon 11:15, 11:45, 12:15. 12 45, 1:15, 1 45, 2:00, 2 30, 3 00, 3 30, 4.00, 4.45, 5.15, 5.45, 4.30, 6.45, 7.15, 7.30, 8 15, 8 00, 8 30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:15, 10:45; Tue-Thu 12:15, 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 2:00,

2.30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 4:45, 5:10, 5:45 8:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:30, 8:00, 8:30 9 / 9:31 10:00, 10:15, 10:45

28 WEEKS LATER (18A, gory scenes) Fri-Thu

12.10, 2:45, 5.20, 7.50, 10:20 GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual

content) Fr-Thu 12 30, 4 10, 6 50, 9 40 AWAY FROM HER (PG, coarse language) Fri-Mon Wed-Thu 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20; Toe:

3:50, 6.40, 9:20; Star and Strollers: Tue 1:00

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightering scenes, not recommended for young children) F 1755 11:30, 12:00, 1:00, 2:10, 3:10, 3:40, 4,4 5 40, 6.30, 7.00, 8:15, 9:15, 9:45 16 T. 12:00, 2:10, 3 10, 3 40, 4:40, 5 40 6 10 7 00, 8.15, 9:15, 9:45, 10:30; wed 12 16, 1 00, 2 10, 3:10, 3:48, 4:48, 5:40, 6:30, 7, 36 8.15, 9:15, 9.45, 10:30; Thu 12:00, 1:00 2), 3 10, 3.40, 4.40, 5.40, 6:30, 8.15, 9.15, 9.15

FRACTURE (14A, Sn Weed 1, 1) 20 7 0 9 50; Thu 12 40, 3,20

10:30; Star and Strohers: Tue 1:00

HOT FUZZ (14A grant come, same at guage) Fri-Sat Mon-Thu 1:50 4 5/ 14 10:40; Sun 1:50: 10:40

DISTURBIA (14A) Fn-Thu 1:30, 4:20 7 17 10.10

WWE: JUDGMENT DAY (Classification not available) Sun 6 00

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no passes) Thu

west male of

8882-170 St. 444-1829

21

PATHFINDER (18A) Frt 4 45, 7 30, 10:00; Sat-Mon 1:15, 4 45, 7:30, 10:00; Tue-Thu 7:30 10.00

REIGN OVER ME (14A, mature theme language) Fri Tue-Thu 6:40 9 Mitter 1 (0), 3.45, 6.40, 9.20

FIREHOUSE DOG (PG) Frt 4 3t 11 10 10 10 Mon 1:20, 4:30, 7:00; Tue-Thu 7:10

BENEZIE TO MERICA TO TA TO THE young children) Fri 5:00 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 12 30, 2:45, 5 00, 7.20 + 50 T /- Tr - 2 9 30

THE REAPING (14A, frightening share) Fr. Tue-Thu 6 30, 9:00; Sat-Mon 1:30, 4:00 Fig.

12:45, 2 40, 4:40, 6.45, 9:10; Tue-Thu 6:45 THE LAST MIMZY (PG, may frighten young

TMNT (PG) Frt 4:40, 6 45, 9 10; Sat-Mon

châdreni Fri Tue-Thu 6 5u; Sat-Mon 12 40, 3 30, 6 50 SHARKWATER (PG, disturbing content) Fn

4 50, 7 10, 9 40; Sat-Mon 12:50, 2:50, 4:50 7 10, 9 40; Tue-Thu 7:10, 9 40

GHOST RIDER (14A) Fif-Thu 9:50 THE NUMBER 23 (14A, violence, gor)

scenes) Fri-Thu 9:25

WESTMOUNT CENTRE

111 Ave. Groat Rd. 455-8726

SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Fn 4 45, 7:00, 9 15; Sat-Mon 12:15, 2.30, 4:45, 7:00 9 15; Tue-Thu 7 00, 9:15

content) Fri Tue-Thu 6 40, 9:20; Sat-Mon 12:45, 3 15, 6 40, 9.20 SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG, frightering scenes, not

recommended for young children) Fri Tue-Thu

GEORGIA RULE (14A, metura theme, sexual

6:30, 9:30; Sat-Mon 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 FRACTURE (14A) Fn Tue-Wed 7:10; Sat-Mon 12:40, 3.00, 7.10

LUCKY YOU (PG, course language) Fri-

Hed 9.35 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG, violence; not recommended for young children, no pesses) Thu

WETASKIWIN CINEMAS

111 780-0-2-7922 SPIDERMAN \$ (PG, Inghtening scenes, not

7:00, 9:15, Fn-Mon 1:00, 3:20

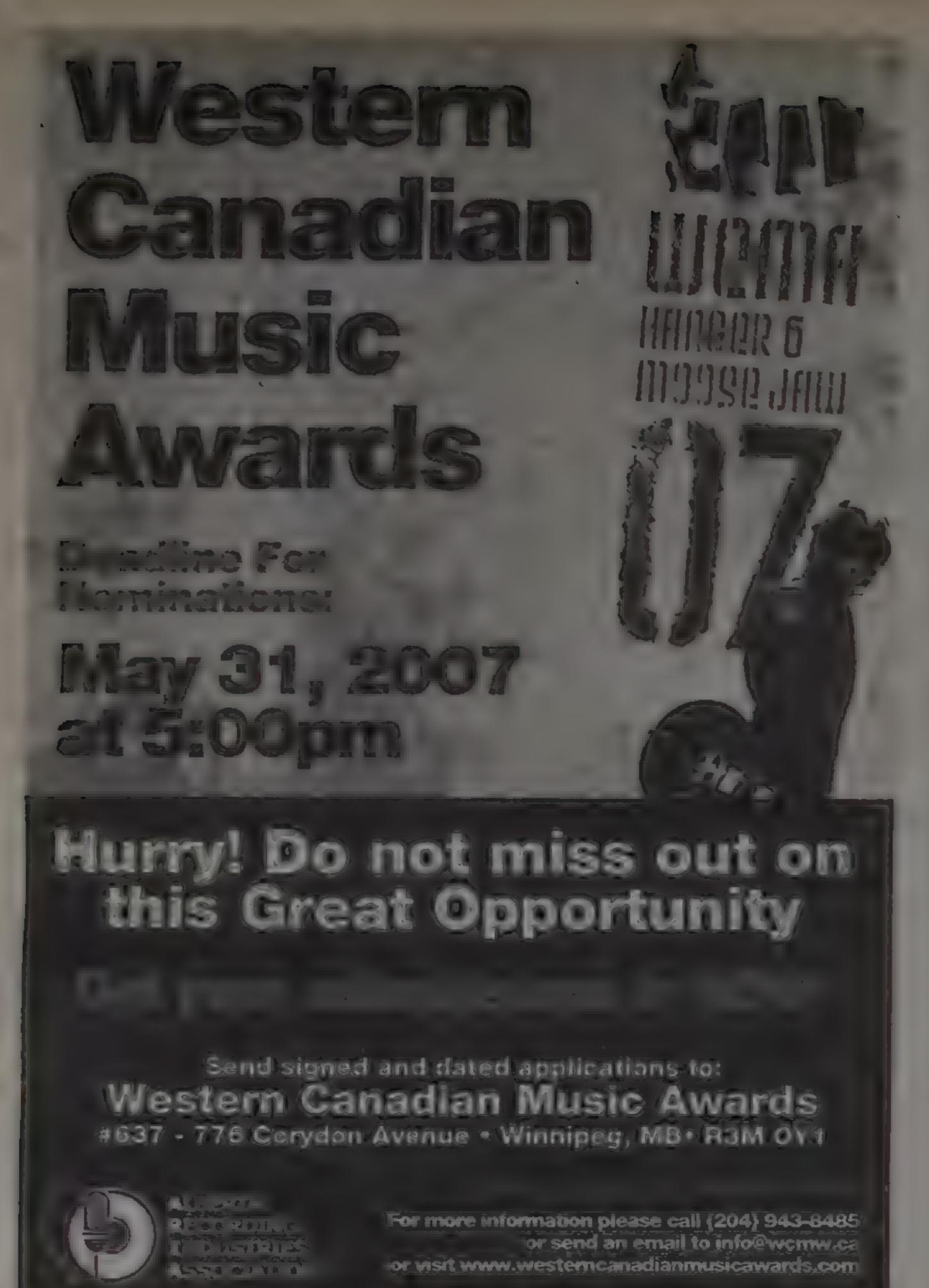
recommended for young children) Daily 6.45. 9 40: Sat-Mon 12 45, 3.40 SHREK THE THIRD (PG, no passes) Daily

guage) Daily 7:05, 9:25, Fn-Mon 1:05 3:25 GEORGIA RULE (14A, mature theme, sexual content) Daily 6 55, 9 20; Sat-Mon 12:55, 3 20 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG. Violence, not recom-

HOT FUZZ (14A, gory scenes, coarse lan-

VUEWEEKLY

mended for young children) Thu 8:00



Jesus Camp checks out for a while

CAROLYN NIKODYM / carolyn@vueweekly.com

y many, many of you Shaire likely heard about or seen the Oscar-nominated documentary Jesus Camp. The film, by New York directors Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady, offers a stunningly honest and unbiased portrait the American Evangelical movement.

It also caused quite the stir, becoming the catalyst for change as well as eerily foreshadowing the fall of a powerful preacher, Ted Haggard, the former leader of the American National Association of Evangelicals.

Since the film, minister Becky Fischer has closed the titular camp in North Dakota indefinitely—due to a negative reaction to the film. Apparently the owners of the land that the camp is on were worried about vandalism. Fischer's website, however, further explains that she is looking for an appropriate replacement.

And Ted Haggard, of course, fell from grace when male escort Mike Jones came out with the news that Haggard was one of his clients and allegedly used crystal meth. Although Haggard went through a three-week intensive counselling session that "cured" him of his homosexual tendencies, he stepped down from his leadership role and has since left his church's Colorado Springs home and



1 THU, MAY 24 (7 PM)

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY HEIDI EWING, RACHEL ERADY FEATURING BECKY FISCHER, TEO HAGGARD, MIKE PAPANTONIO METRO CINEMA, \$8 - \$10

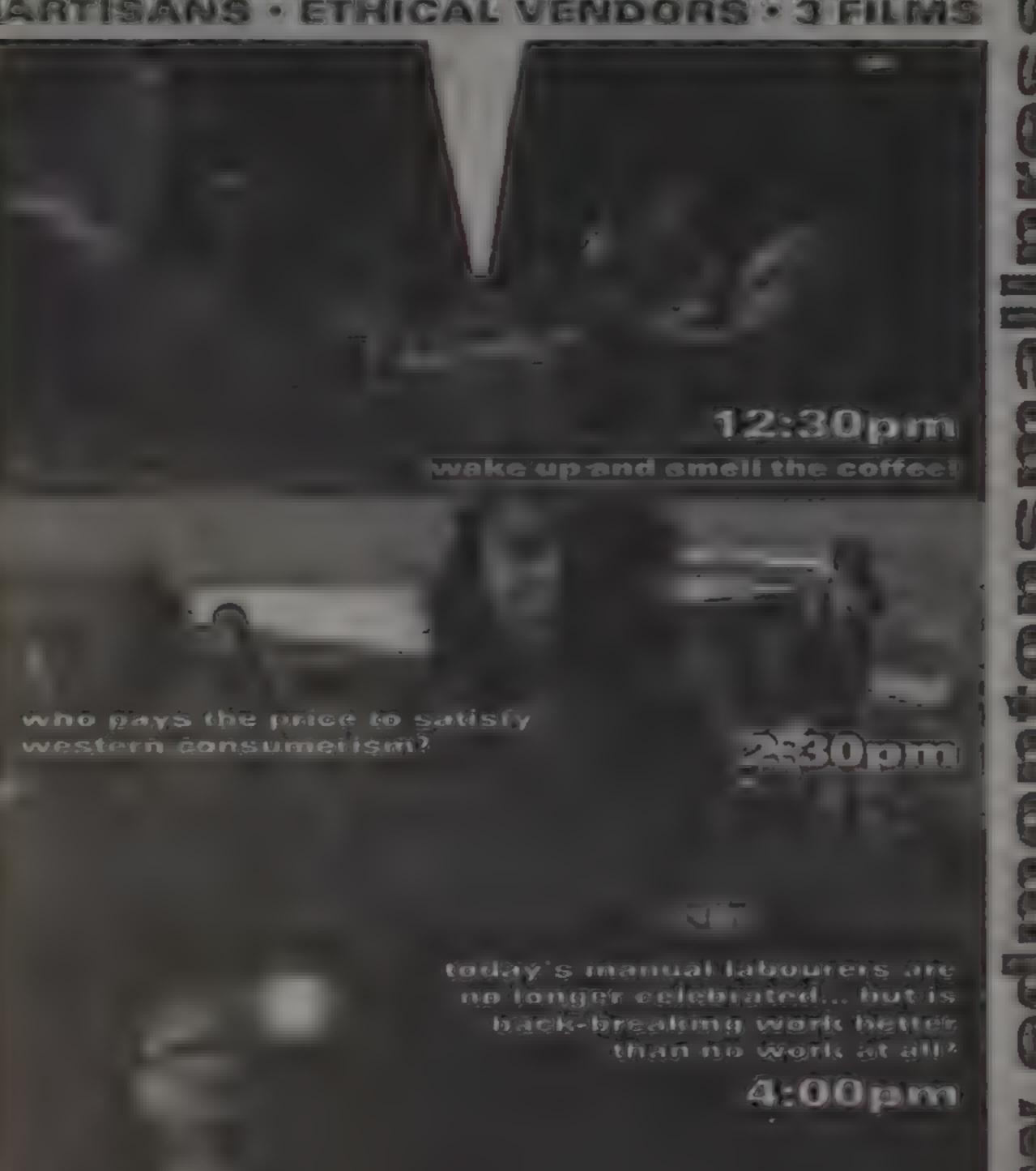
moved to Phoenix.

Now, that all said, the absolute genius of Jesus Camp is its directors' refusal to deliver a film with an agenda. While they may feel strongly, one way or the other, about the Christian right, what comes through in their film is an honest curiosity for a portion of society. The reaction to it stems from what each of their audi ence brings to it. It should also be said that the only subject of the film who had a problem with the portrayal of Evangelicals was Haggard

Global Visions will be screening the film next Thursday (May 24) and have invited Dittmar Mündel to speak after the film. The Augustana faculty member teaches Religious Studies and is a pastor of the Eval. gelical Lutheran Church, having been ordained in 1970. No doubt he'll have some interesting insight into the film and subject. v

Lohan's new movie doesn't Rule FAIR TRADE FAIR & FILM FEST

MAY 19--- 12-6 PM



CHRISTINE YANISH / christine@vueweekly.com he making of Georgia Rule was

most likely hell for everyone involved. It has been widely reported that Lindsay Lohan caused ample production delays due

to her "discourteous, irresponsible and unprofessional" conduct, according to Morgan Creek Productions CEO James G Robinson. He also stated that she acted like a "spoiled child" and possibly damaged the reputation of the film.

This sort of news never really affects how I view a film; this isn't the first time, nor will it be the last, that a celebrity causes trouble on a set. But notwithstanding the controversy, the problems with Georgia Rule have nothing to do with Lohan. It tries be honourable, but it is a deeply misguided and shaky picture.

Rachel (Lindsay Lohan) is a rebellious and basically unmanageable teenager, and her mother Lilly (Felicity Huffman) decides not to put up with it anymore. She sends Rachel to live with her grandmother Georgia (Jane Fonda) in a tiny Idaho Mormon town.

Lilly is not excited about this choice—she and her mother do not get along, mainly because of her strict rules—but it is the only one she is left with. Rachel is forced to work as a temp for the town veterinarian, Simon (Dermot Mulroney), and she makes her presence known around the community immediately by seducing Harlan (Garrett Hedlund), a virgin who is about to embark on a Mormon



THIS IS OK

STARRING LINDSAY LOHAN, JANE FONDA, PELICITY HUEFMAN

retreat. During all of this, Rachel, Lilly and Georgia are struggling to keep their family together after some very astonishing secrets surface.

LOHAN IS HILARIOUS and beguiling as Rachel, the disturbed, sexually active, drug-induced teenaged brat. Not much of a stretch? If we believe the media, maybe this is why she makes her work here look effortless. It's really just her.

I really can't decide. If it was a gutsy portrayal she deserves all the kudos she is getting. The manner in which she walks through this town, not to mention the outstanding one-liners she responds with, are the only memorable qualities Georgia Rule possesses.

Jane Fonda contributes a heartselt and hard-nosed performance, but she doesn't have a good deal to do. She does seem very natural and comfort able as the grandmother who never bends her policies for anyone. She is a pleasant presence, but not a notice able scene stealer.

One of the biggest problems was Felicity Huffman. After seeing the film, I read an article detailing how the star was actually "tipsy" dui the shooting of Georgia Rule. Imagini someone being slightly inebriated then trying to act drunk on top of that. She is so over the top it's painful to watch on occasion.

Georgia Rule displays Garry shall's trademark directing style of attempting to mix comedy with a serious themes, but the film proves that maybe he should try something else next time. It had potential to succeed but Marshall and the writers di missed the necessity of an intriguing premise. A more mediocre, female dramedy will not be found anywhere this summer. Wait a day or two for Shrek the Third. V

He would not feel so all abandoned, everybody must get Bob Wiseman

CIO BERRY / danied commencementally.com

ometimes it's tough constantly being under the radar, but when it comes to e music industry, my interests are so different from theirs, what else are rou going to do? I feel sort of like the abstitute teacher of the music indusno what he cold of the same as regular achers, but no one ever really spects them or listens to what they lave to say."

If Bob Wiseman is a substitute teacher, he's surely the coolest fill-in to er truck his way into Grade 11 Math with his collar unbuttoned and his tie hanging slipshod around his neck.

Actually, scratch that: even as a substitute, Wiseman would probably be the kind of guy who would break the graphing lesson early to manually in a super 8 reel of his latest film across the overhead projector while hree enthralled students discover hat's been missing from school, and n others scratch "A7X" into their desks or text each other.

A long-ago ex-keyboard wizard of 3lue Rodeo who has since turned into one of Canada's most eclectic poly- aths, Wiseman is an outsider among putsiders, a kind of playful genius so ired in his own beautiful idiosynrasies they've become as much a blessing to those who pick up his wavelength as armour against being considered, much less understood, by a broader audience. That's a fact Wiseman recently came to have a bit of appreciation for, as counterintuitive as it might seem.

"I really like [Bob] Dylan, and I've seen him a couple of times, and both times he was horrible, but he's such a profound artist that it doesn't really spoil anything for me at all," Wiseman explains, barely breathing. "So it really shocked me at those shows how many people didn't know his canon. It's completely ludicrous to me that



THE ORTONA ARMOURY (9722 - 102 STREET), \$10

'Blowin' In the Wind' or 'Rainy Day Women' or something is the only thing about Dylan that people who are going to his concerts know. That's the flip side of playing bars with three people in them: at least they all know you and like the music."

PITY THE PEOPLE that avoid the bar with a Wiseman show (or, in our case, FAVA's space in the Ortona Armoury, a fittingly off-kilter music venue): Wiseman's songs run the gamut from thoroughly ridiculous satires—crowd favourite (whatever that means when it comes to Wiseman) like "My Cousin Dave," for instance, urging his sort-of relative David Geffen to sign him to a record deal, among other things—to the crushingly personal songs of his most recent record, the breakupinspired Theme and Variations, ali

pulled off with Wiseman's gift for pretty little intricacies.

Wiseman's output hardly ends with music, though. One of the more interesting recently added aspects of his thoroughly engaging live show are Wiseman's films, which run from de facto music videos for his songs to spliced footage he accompanies with an accordion, and that's only part of a creative output that also includes work with ex-Kid in the Hall Scott Thompson on Thompson's one-man show Scottastrophe! For Wiseman, it all comes from a creative impulse that's as natural as the eccentricity that keeps it appreciated by a small but devoted number

"If it amuses me, and I can afford to do it, I might as well," Wiseman explains. "I'm kind of an artistic interloper, I like to plug myself into everything, but really I think I create because I need to, which is probably the way you should do it. I'm certainly not making a lot of money or anything, so I might as well amuse myself." V

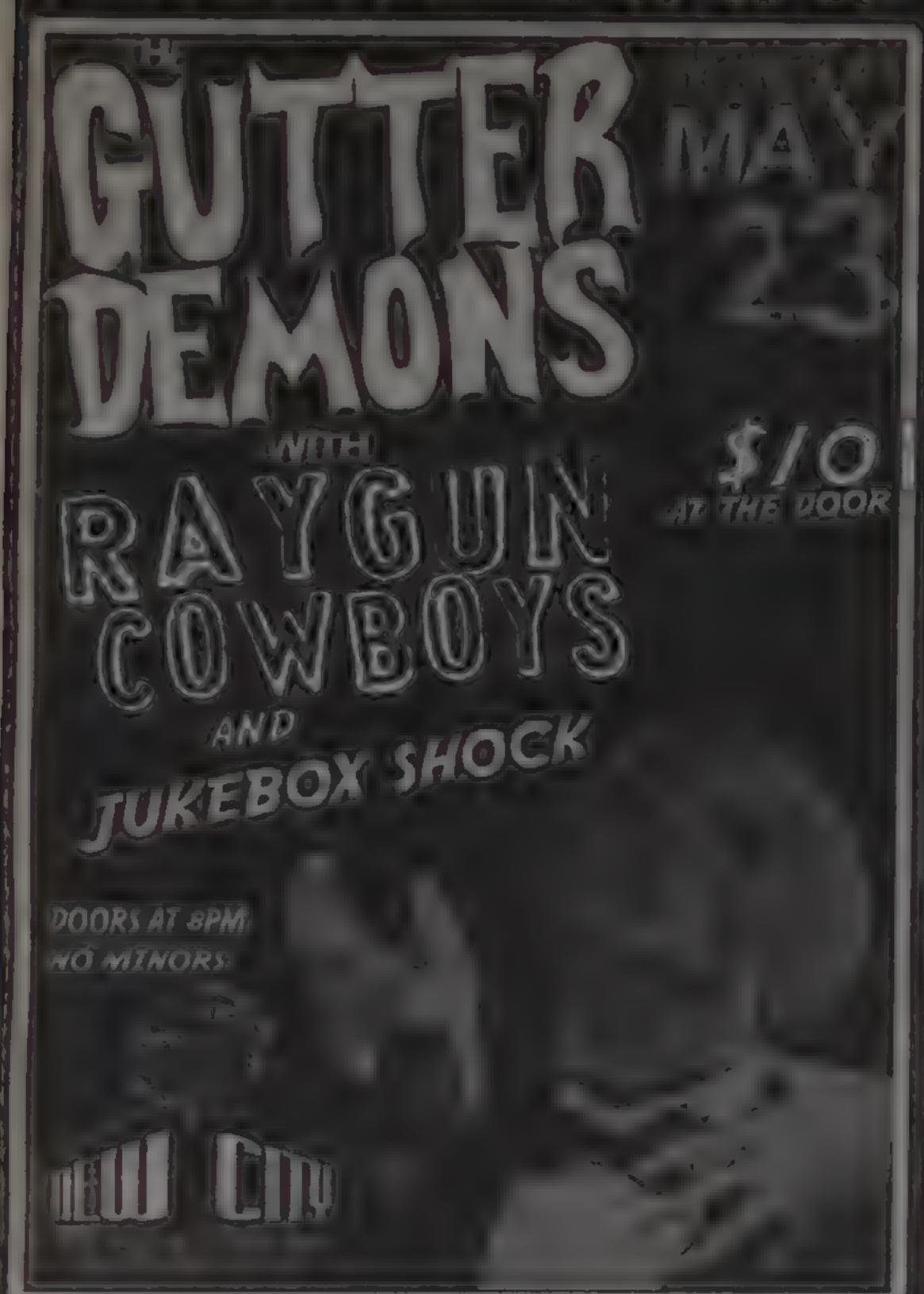


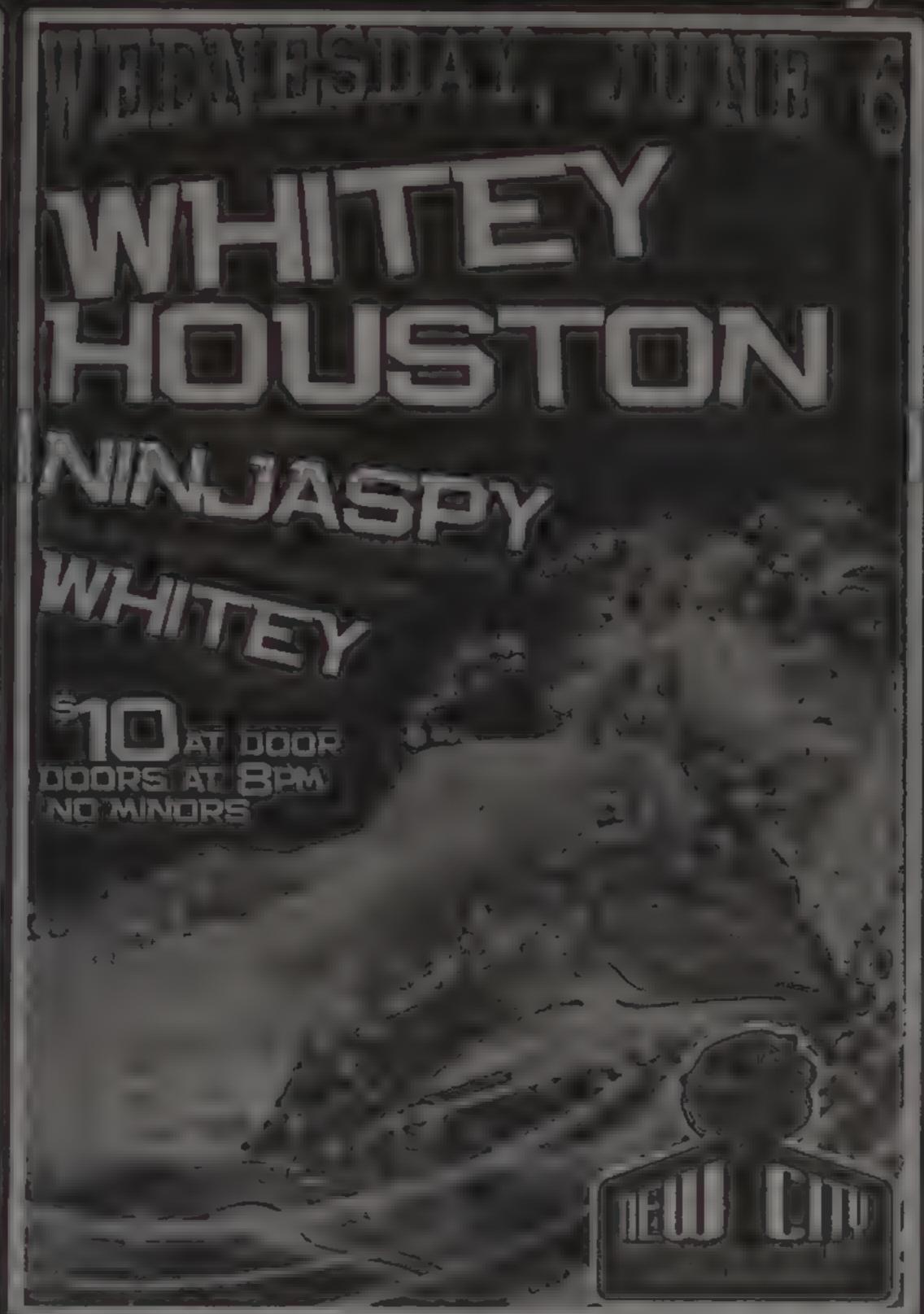


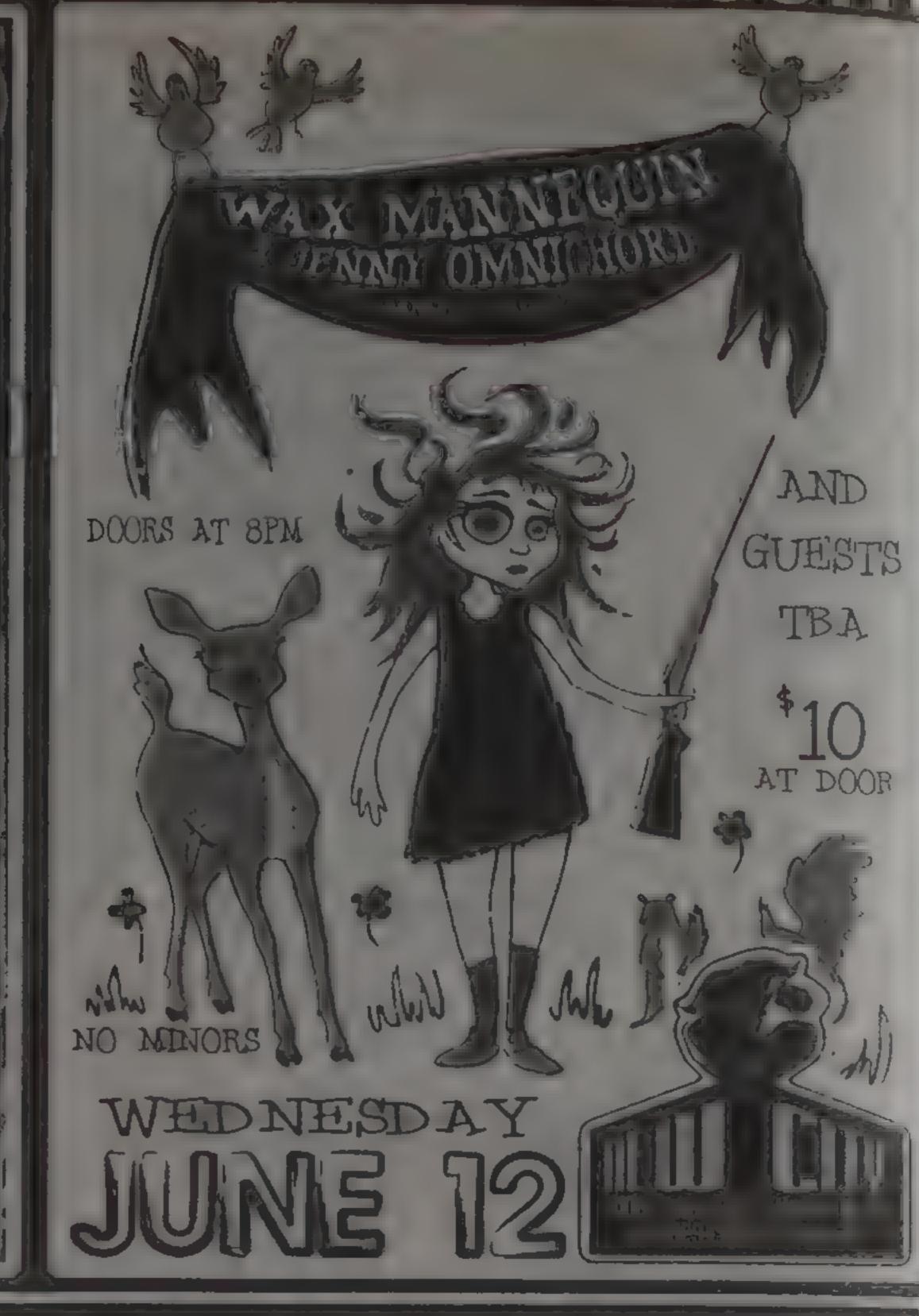


Euopie of Maiden albums with various backing groups—but the B-Movies are picking up the slack. Last week they played a show, tearing up some punkedop rockabilly. It was solid work, but my favourite moment came when the band closed out the set with an even more bunked up version of the Dickinson-era Maiden tune "Fear of the Dark." And you killen what? It worked. Like, in a pretty when Dianno brought a little of his punk

newcitycompound Acom

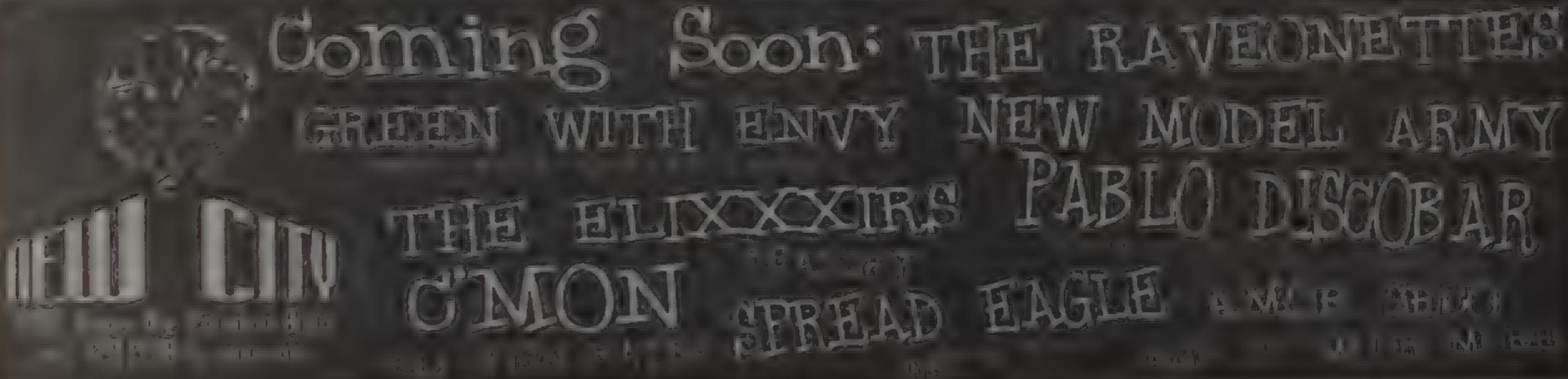














He would not feel so all abandoned, everybody must get Bob Wiseman

Limitery / david Coverweally com

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] FRI, MAY 18 (7 PM) THE ORYONA ARMOURY (9722 - 102 STREET), \$10

'Blowin' In the Wind' or 'Rainy Day Women' or something is the only thing about Dylan that people who are going to his concerts know. That's the flip side of playing bars with three people in them: at least they all know you and like the music."

PITY THE PEOPLE that avoid the bar with a Wiseman show (or, in our case, FAVA's space in the Ortona Armouty, a fittingly off-kilter music venue): Wiseman's songs run the gamut from thoroughly ridiculous satires—crowd favourite (whatever that means when it comes to Wiseman) like "My Cousin Dave," for instance, urging his sort-of relative David Geffen to sign him to a record deal, among other things—to the crushingly personal songs of his most recent record, the breakupinspired Theme and Variations, all

pulled off with Wiseman's gift for pretty little intricacies.

Wiseman's output hardly ends with music, though. One of the more interesting recently added aspects of his thoroughly engaging live show are Wiseman's films, which run from de facto music videos for his songs to spliced footage he accompanies with an accordion, and that's only part of a creative output that also includes' work with ex-Kid in the Hall Scott Thompson on Thompson's one-man show Scottastrophe! For Wiseman, it all comes from a creative impulse that's as natural as the eccentricity that keeps it appreciated by a small but devoted number.

"If it amuses me, and I can afford to do it, I might as well," Wiseman explains. "I'm kind of an artistic interloper, I like to plug myself into everything, but really I think I create because I need to, which is probably the way you should do it. I'm certainly not making a lot of money or anything, so I might as well amuse myself." V



IX AVAIL AT BLACKBYRD, LISTEN, FOOSH, COLOURBLIND, SOULAR & TICKETMASTER SATURDAY JUNE 9 ISTARLITE ROOM BOOK BEEFE

W/ CHOSTS OF MODERN MAN, E TOWN BEATDOWN, HILLS HAVE EYES

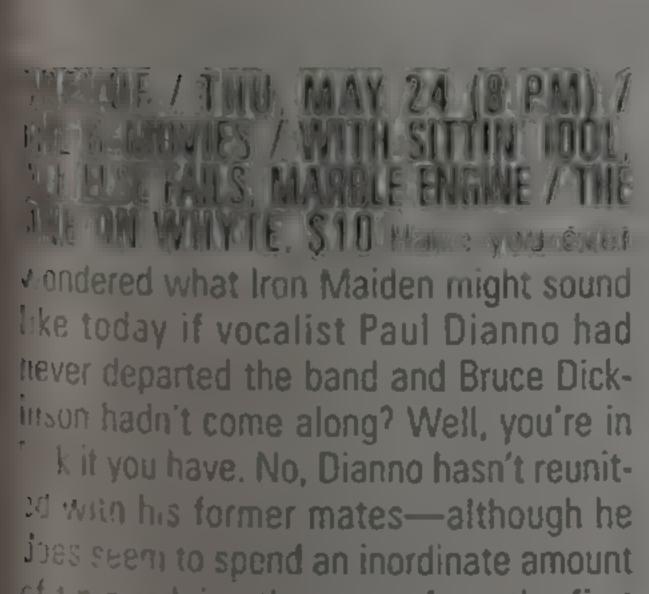
STARLITE ROOM (DOORS @ 8 PM) TIX AT BLACKBYRD, LISTEN, FREECLOUD & TICKETMASTER

W/ FIELD & STREAM . LISTEN RECORDS ALL AGES EARLY SHOW (DOORS @ 6 PM, SHOW AT 6:30)

FRIDAY JUNE 29 BOLLERESEUR

W/ THE HYLOZOISTS & OHBIJOU

- PRODUCTIONS



of time redoing the songs from the first suple of Maiden albums with various Jacking groups—but the B-Movies are picking up the slack. Last week they Mayed a show, tearing up some punked-Ep rockabilly It was solid work, but my favourite moment came when the band closed out the set with an even more Punked up version of the Dickinson-era Maiden tune "Fear of the Dark." And you know what? It worked. Like, in a pretty cool way. Makes me pine for the days then Dianno brought a little of his punk sound to Maiden's sprawling epics. — The Domestical Hylican





置 ISTINGS

AFAX YOUR FISE LISTBASS TO 476,7889 OR E MAR SLEYIS AT MODIZUESWEIVERSENTELL DEACH THE IS FREDAY AT 3 PM

BACKDRAUGHT PUB Open stage; 9pm

BLIND PIG Open Stage: new age BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ Andrea House, Chris Smith; \$15 (door) **BLUES ON WHYTE Steve**

HUSTOPHER'S PARTY PUB Open stage nosted by Alberta. Crude, 6-10pm

CONVOCATION HALL Danny Michel, Amy Seeley, Ayla Brook, \$14 at TicketMster, Blackbyrd, Megatunes, Listen

DRUID Open mic hosted by Chris Wynters every Tue, Spm

DUSTER'S PUB Jam hosted by

EDDIE SHORTS Music trivia with Colin and Ed from Almost Famous

FOUR ROOMS Mark Segger; 8pm **HULBERT'S** Thursday night singer-songerwriter, roots, blues, and folk night: 8pm; Lara Yule Singh and Alexia Melnychuk 8pm,

THE IVORY CLUB Live Dueling Pianos, no cover, 8pm JAMMERS PUB Thursday open

jam. 7-11pm JAND R BAR AND GRILL Open

stage with The Poster Boys (pop/rock/blues); 8.30pm-12 30am H. E. U. VARRATE STOKEDOL A TEMP

of the Arts: performances from the concert band and choir, one-act drama production, and artworks,

hosted by the Wild Rose Old Tyme Fiddlers Society; 7-10pm

O'BYRNE'S Forever and a Day MOUNTE POLICIONAL

REVALL PLACE My Chemical Romance, The Black Parade

TRA AMICI'S The Heart of the City Festival; featuring 3 band, silent auction; \$10 (door) into at

DRIEAN LOUINGETUNF (A) WHYTE Rake, Conrad

WALLO CHART SAL DOOL TO BY

WUNDERBAR Tippy Agogo Jamis session: DB Buxton, 9 30pm; \$5

CLASSICAL

McGOUGALL UNITED CHURCH Anthony Flynn (opera); 7 30pm admission by donation, proceeds to support his European audition

Competition. String programs y Estelle Choi, Nikki Chooi, Asthon Lim, Claudia Schaer, Emily Westell and Jing Zhang, 9-12pm and 1.30-

MINISPIAN CENTRE Lighter Classics Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Alain Trudel (conductor), William Wolfram (piano) 8pm; \$23-\$64 at Winspear

BACKROOM VODKA BAR Thursday Nights, Electro Education dub, trip hop, lounge,

BILLY BIOR'S LOUINGE CONTRACTOR Entertainment

BURGIOSOS PREEMOUSE Thursdays: DJs spin on two levels

SUPPLY STREET, WAS A STREET, W with Mia Fellow, midnight, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy

ESMERALIDA'S & and Rich Thursday, top 40, country STATE OF THE STATE Birigo with DJ S W A.G

FLUID LOUNGE Girls Night out RUMMY BUDDIAM (WHYTE AVE) Requests with DJ Damian

GAS PUMP Ladies Nite: Top 40/dance with DJ Christian SINGLE STY Union Street

Thursdays: Urban Substance Sound Crew Invinceable, Touch It, Lady Vishus, hosted by KWAME KAS BAR Urban House, with DJ Mark Stevens; 9pm

NEW CON I lines | Six Thorsdays Transport of the part of the p

TOTAL TRANSPORTED IN THE PARTY OF THE PARTY Thursdays: Dance lessons at 8µm Salsa DJ to follow

OVERTIME BOILER AND TAP-**ROOM SOUTH Retro to New** Chisic rock, 88B urban and dan e with CJ Mixee, 4pm 2am

PLANET INDIES-ST. ALBERT Hit It Thursdays, breaks, electro house spun by PI residents

RED STAR Femme Fatale: rock. pop, hip hop with OJ Kelty

THE ROOST Gorgeous: featuring hostess Dr. Lexxxx Tronic, Drag Kings and Queens, burlesque and rotating game shows, bands

STANDARD DJ Danny Howelis (UK), tickets available at licketMaster, Treehouse, Underground (WEM), Colourblind

STARUITE ROOM DJ 2-Trip, Degree, Shortround and Echo, Agent Orange and Sweez, no minors, 9pm (door), tickets available at TicketMaster, Blackbyrd, Listen, Foosh, Treehouse, Soular, Colourblind

CONTRACT WINDS PERCENTION NRMLS WECH DJ Nik 7 of Shout Out Out Out, 8pm (door); \$7

(blues/roots); 9:30pm-1 30pm; no

AXIS CAFÉ Friday Live Must Nights Lisa Evangelos; 8pm.

BLUE CHAIR CAPÉ THE Calgarians, Linda McRae, Steve Pineo, Ann Loree, Ralph Boyd Johnson; \$15 (door)

BLUES ON WYRIYITE Marriner

CASINO EDMONTON Colleen Rae and Comerstone In the talk

CASING YELLOWHEAD Carson County (pop/rock)

Band (not blues), 10pm

FOUR ROOMS Mark Segger: THESE START

AULEIA OF S. Simeraporo (blues/rock), 8-10pm

THE IVORY CLUB Live Dueling Planos, no cover, 9pm

THE STREET STREET JEFFREYS CAFE!

Trio (jazz), \$10 BIN I AND HYDE PUB

Headwind (pop/rock); 9 38pm ON THE ROCKS Ratt Poison, DJ

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB The Fabulous Canolatones,

STARLITE ROOM Masta Killah-Wu-Tang Clan, Unkle Sam and J Sout, Politic Live, Emiree E and Touch, Dough Low Rock, Twist and

Millwoods Town Ctrl, Blackbyrd, Foosh, Method Streetwear, Soular Clothing WEM, Alexis Clubwear (Kingsway)/more at the door

MELVET UNIGERCEOUSED devonder, Carpenter, goden

WILD WEST SALOON Tracy

Van Gaalen; all ages; 7pm (door); \$26 50-\$32 50 at Winspear box

ARTIBERA SHIPE COMMENTER (door), 9pm (show), \$12 (mem-ber)/\$16 (guest) at TicketMaster

CLASSICAL

MUTTARY HALL Through Shining Competition: String concertos ! v Estelle Choi, Nikki Chooi, Asthon Lim, Claudia Schaer, Emily Westell and Jing Zheng, 9-12pm and 1 30-4 30pm, free

BACKROOM VODKA BAR Funky Friday: Funky breaks, funky house, funky tunes with Phile and friends

SOUND UTILITY A NOUTREE

Connected Findays local house music with DJs and occasional international special guest DJ SAME RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

BAR WILD Bar Wild Fridays

BLACKDOG FREEHOUSE DJs soin on the main floor and on the Wooften **BOOTS** Retro Discor retro dance

BUDDY'S We made 'em famous! DJ Eddy Toonflash, come early to

avoid lineup, no cover before COWBOYS OJ Rectangle, Shortround and DJ Echo, no moning and no truly lik

minors, 8pm; no minors; \$12 at TicketMaster, Foosh, Colourblind, Treehouse, Cowboys **DANTE'S BISTRO** Text

Messaging Singles Party for singles 25-40, completely anony-mous, totally addictive DELUXE BURGER BAR Rare '60s

and electronic India with Joel ESMERALDA'S ICC Journal Friday

and '70s progressive rock, disco.

A or Adone FEVER Global Fridays: R&B, hip hop, reggae, reggaeton and mash-

FLUID LOUNGE Fridays Neon Lights' hosted by Connected

Entertainment BURNEY BUILDING BY FIRE DIVE Top tracks, rock, retre with DJ

Damian GAS PUMP Top 40/dance with DJ Christian

HALO Mod Club, Indie rock, new Wave, Brit pop, and '60s soul with DJ Blue Jay, DJ Travy D; no cover before 10pm; \$5 (atter 10pm)

KHZ A-Rock and Hatchmatik with Merk Meny and DJ Echo featuring Bailefunk, Electro, Booty, Ghettotech, Bmore, Juke and all other serious party jams, 9pm (door); \$10

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Hypnotiq Friday Breakbeat, house, progressive and electro with Groovy Cuvy. DJ Fuuze

NEW CITY Bitch! Bitch! Bitch! with DJs Dervish, Greg Gory, Brad Habit and quests, no minors, 9pm

NEW CITY Friday Night Freek

rockandroll/punkrock/abitoleverthing/indy with DJs Jebus and Anarchy Adam (from CJSR's Your Weekly AA Meetingl, G-Whiz

OVERTIME BOILER AND TAP classic rock, R&B, urban and dance with DJ Mikee, 9pm-2am,

RED STAR IT THE ROTTER, IN THE

Demon Street with U. Charles Toyoth. (member)/\$6 (non-member)

ROUGE LOURIGE NO PARTY DJ Spice

RUM JUNGLE Peoples DJ

LOUNGE Deep House with Friday The same of the same

SPORTSWORLD INLINE AND AND FULLUR SIGNATURE DISCO foo 40 request with a mix of retro

STOLLI'S Top 40, R&B, house with People's DJ STONEHOUSE PUB Top 40 with

DJ Tysin TINGUEST CALBUTEOUTE

Johnny Dangeroux, Anuy Inertia,

URBAN FRAT Funktion Fridays, Long weekend kick-off Special Performance By Toronto's R&B Sensation Ray Robinson, Edmonton Police security on site all night

he for Sirie Shawnifer and tru Toma; no cover Y AFTERSOURS FOUNDS ON

Fridays

ALICE HOTEL Mr. Lucky (blues/roots); 9 30pm-1,30pm; no

ARDEN THEATRE Mission Hill Brass Band, Brian Greenwood (conductor); 7:30pm; \$16.60 (adult)/\$10.50 (student/senior) at licketMaster

AVERUE S WHITE ARE IT IS Jonek, Shortop, Mrs. Missile. Flora; 7pm, \$5

BAMBOLEO LATIN LOUNGE DJ Foxi Roxi, DJ Fuego, and DJ Jose Jose, free dance classed (8 30-10pm)

BUADA DADE PRESHOUASE HIS OF the Dog: The Divorcees; 4-6 pm, no cover acoustic every Saturday afternoon -

SUM FIG Shoreer

BULLES ON BRANTE DESCRI Marriner; Saturday afternoon jam evening

CAFFREY'S John Guliak and the New Lougans ELEMENT FOLLOW THON A SECOND

Rae and Comerstone {country/rock} CASINO YELLOWHEAD Carson

County (pop/rock) DRUID (JASPER AVE) Open

stage, all ages; 2-6pm EDDIE SHORTS Taylor Made featuring the second cup guy Rob Taylor

FOUR ROOMS Mark Segger, FRESH START Marty and Lil

HITCHE ALLY PAUE CONTROL Disturbance **HOMEGROWN SOUL SHACK**

Sat top rap groups; 5pm THE IVORY CLUB Live Dueling Pianos, no cover; 9pm JAMMERS PUB Saturday open

jam, 3-7 30pm; country/rock band, THE TOTAL ARMO RATE PURE

Headwind (pop/rock), 9 30pm METRO BILLIARDS Jean Stilwell (mezzo-soprano), Patti Loach (prano), 9pm, 990-0704

O'BYRNE'S Chris Wyriters and

Scott Peters, 3pm, no cover ON THE ROCKS Ratt Poison, DJ

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB Open stage: Hosted By Jenny Joy every Saturday, 9pm

THE EN AUDIANIERA HALL Irve blues The MGB's, Mad Dog Blues Band, Dr. Blu, 7 30pm, 7 30pm (door), 8pm (music); \$5

STONY PLAN COMMENTAL CENTRE May dance C-Jam Big Band, 8-midnight; \$10 (door)

VELVET UNDERGROUND Uncut, C U Pt D.S., guests, 8pm, \$10

WALLO CARES I SOUTHING THAT

YARDBIRD SUITE Chris Andrew-Christine Jensen Group: 8pm market Strang & Strange & St. Housewell

ZAMES OF STATE AND ENTIRE band and dancing every Sat. Юрт Тэт

BACKRIGHA YORKA SAIR Saturdays: Top 40 with 00 Soundwave

BLACKDOG FHEREICUSE OUT OF two levels BUDDY'S Undie night for men

only, free pool and tourney, DJ Arrowchaser DECADANCE Soul Heaven Suburdays: Funky house and break be at with D.Js. T.Bass. Femme Funk and local/international guests presented by NewSound . Entertainment no minors Sur

DELLOCE BURGER BAR Rare '60s' and '70s progressive rock, disco. and electronic India with Joel

FLUID LOUNGE Saturdays Gone Gold Mash-Up, with Harmen B and

FUNKY BUDDHA (WHYTE AVE) Top tracks, rock, retro with DJ

GINGUR Victoria Day Long Weel Reaction, Legacy Sound, DJ Invinceable, BabyGirl; 10pm (door)

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Sizzle Saturday, DJ Groovy Cuvy and

NEW CITY Rock 'n' Roll/Heavi dusedcandy with DJs Beard of Reez and Nazz Nomad

NEW CITY SUBURBS The Legend Continues . Saturday Sucks. with DJs Nik Rofeelya and Blue Jay (Mod Club); \$5

ON THE ROCKS DJ Shawnit. and DJ Donguan

PLANET INDIGO-JASPER **AVENUE** Suggestive Saturday breaks electro house spun by P

RED STAR India rock hip hop rock, indie rock, hip hop with Master F, Loopin' the 3rd THE ROOST Saturdays A way
The New Years Eve with Di

(hetro) Jownstans and Outer, (New Music) upstairs, \$4 (max, her)/\$6 (non-member) ING DISCO Sportsworld Inline and Roller Skating Disco Topics request with a mix of retro and disco, 1-5pm and 7pm-12 mm,

STOLLIS ON WHAT TO BE R&B, house with People's [

THE LIE AT RETERINGUES Anthem: hard NRG/trance/funts with Jeff Hillis, DTDR, Big Daddy, STX, Tweek; 1am-8am VELVET UNDERGROUND TOP ()

the Techno to Yal with Tryptomene, Neal K, Dave (dual Tryptomene 12" relear

WORLD LESSAN Francisco Local Bands Y AFFERIOUS PRESS Saturdays

BUANDON BURGO Give It Up: Main Fluor Motown, disco with 0J Real and

CONVOCATION HALL in My Kitchen: Folkwa, A. i. and Peter North present Home, Edwards, guests, 8pm, \$25 at 1

CROWN AND ANCHOR PUB Jam every Sunday, 7pm

EDDIE SHORTS BAR AND GRALL Sunday open stag Onginal acoustic music, 8

LAMMERS PHE

blues jam; 4-8pm MADDHATTERS-GRANDE PRAIRIE The Traverty (5-piece rock group); Spar

ed by Willy and Dave every Sun O'BYRNE'S Joe Bird's Irre Jan

NEW CASTIL PUB

Open stage for all, 9 30pm, no OR THE MICHE PARTY

USCARS PUB Ope of Ca. clirate . RITCHIE UNITED THE REAL PROPERTY.

and Reflections: The Mos Lerel

featuring the Digs/Male McDons alternate weeks, 9-12

HERITAGE AMPHITHEATHE HAWRELAX PARK Pops in the 2 30pm, \$15 at TIX on the Square

BACKSTAGE TAP AND GRILL Improv, Jameoki and DJ Tim THE BARN OF THE STATE OF

Tommie Sunshine BLACK MOG ERLERMICE ST

Up. Main Floor Tunk, Soul, Notown, and disco with OJ Red Dawn, 2-7pm

"Bloom" melds brilliant improvisation with innovative songwriting and evocative grooves that burst forth to

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Hillhouse & nomad percussionist François Taillefer.

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5. John Prine & Mac Wiseman - Standard Songs For Average People (oh boy)

9. Modest Mouse - We Were Dead Before The Ship Even Sank (epic)

1. Fest - The Reminder (arts & crafts)

3. Arcade Fire - Neon Bible (marge)

4. Gninceman - Grindsman (200)

6. Dinosaur Jr. - Beyond (fat possum)

2. Mavis Staples - We'll Never Turn Back (anti)

7. By Cooder - Mry Name Is Buddy (nonesuch)

8. Kings Of Leon - Because Of The Times (real)

12. Various - A Tribute To Joni Mitchell (nonesuch)

14. Nell Young - Live At Massey Hall 1971 (repnse)

15. Ell Calanan - Woke On A Whate Heart (drag sity)

17. Peter Bjorn And John - Whoms Block (simost gold)

19. The Shins - Winding The Night Away (sub pop)

21. Rick Holmstrom - Late In The Night (m.c. records)

20. John Wort Hannam - Two Bit Suit (black hen)

23. Elliott Smith - New Moon (kill rock stars)

25. Bill Bourne - Boon Tang (cordova bay)

26. Anny Winshouse - Back To Black (universal)

27.LCD Soundsystem - Sound Of Silver (dfa)

18. Arctic Monkeys - Favourite Worst Nightmare (domino)

24. Harry Manx & Kevin Breit - In Good We Trust (stony plain)

28. Of Montreal - Hissing Fauns, Are You The Destroyer (polyviny!)

au. The Good The Ead & The Queen - The Good, The Bed & The Queen

29. You Say Party We Say Dig - Lose All Time (paperbec)

10. VAN Nation - Judgement (metropous)

13. Lucinda Williams - West (lost highway)

11 E ande Redhead - 23 (420)

160" - Whyth Takes (Warp)

22. Tom Waits - Orphans (anti)

MUSIC

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TELSARTVICH COMMUNITY

Time Either laming tool by the Wold Base Cid Tyme Field ers Society 7pm TAPHOUSE Monthly Live with Big Tick of Bill 11 shorn, no cover

BAR WILD Bar Gone Wild

Mar Lays Service Lidustry Night the appropriate state of

ELACKTOR FAREACUSE COMMENTS **BUDDY'S** Amateur Strip Contest With the first of the William Control of the

FILTHY MCNASTY'S Metal Mondays, with DJ S W.A.G. FLUID LOUNGE Mondays Mixer NEW CITY LINYIN LOUNG

O'BYRNE'S Best local musical talent with DJ Angus

Munch on Metal Mondays' no

Featuring Bruce Monast (bass/keys), Greg Smith (guitar), Sandro Cominelli (drums), 9pm-12 BUTTES ON WHATTE HAVE THE

CASTLE ROCK-ST. ALBERT Tuesday Freeway Jam hosted by Mark Ammar, Dale Collins and Noel Mackenzie, 8 30pm

DRUID LIASPER AVENUE) Open stage with Chris Wynters and JET NIGHTCLUB Drowning Pool,

LEGENOS PUB Open jam hosted

State of Shock, Chunk, 7pm; no

by Cor It was DEVERFS COM TO SOUTH

YARDBIRD SUITE וי יטל, יני לזנא אריו א ל איני 8 apringer on them \$1

BLACKDOG FRE SHOUSE BA main level

TO MINION TO SUPPLY WA UJ Arrowchaser

ESMERALDA'S Top 40, country, R&B with DJ Foreplay, DJ Jimmy FUNKY BUDDHA (Whyte Ave)

Lating and Six Call Colors GINGUR SICY Tuesdays, Reggae music; no cover-

NEW CITY LINAID LOUNGE The In Kraut, Mod R&B, Northern Soul, '60s Garage, Mod Revival with Dr. Enck and guests

SAPPHIRE RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE Tapas Tuesday, popular house beats with DJ Kevin Wong

SPORTSWORLD INLINE AND AND ROLLER SKATING DISCO 144 real twith a next regi and disco, 7pm-12 midnight

VELVET UNDERGROUND
Tuesday Night Shakedown, with OJ Generic, DJ Frederick, 8pm, no

WUNDERBAR Sweet Brit and Punk with Phillip and Bogner

ATUMING THAT AND SILLOWIN mic with Butt Hobison, 8pm

GLACKDOG PREEHOUSE . "" by Wit day BLUE CHAIR CARE

BULLS ON WHYTE

EDIDIE STEDENS IDEAL OF THE

RIDIO LER'S ROOS

Windstandors hanted by Rock of

LEVEL 2 LOUNGE Open Mic

Roll Kenny

The Metro World Beat Band with Enrique **NEW CITY** The Gutter Demons, Raygun Cowboys; no minors, Bom (door), \$10 (door)

MATRO CLUB AND BRILLIAMES

O'BYRNE'S Chris Wynters and quests, 9 30pm, no cover

PREASON FROM COMMUNITY HALL Acoustic Bluegrass Jam Presented by the Northern Bluegrass Circle Music Society every Wednesday evening

REXALL PLACE The Kitlers 7 30pm, \$39 25-\$45 25 at

RIVERSIDE BAR AND GRILL Virton ta Nin a pen dagetroomed i lee. in hand, he ted to be and No. y 7pm t et ap. 8 hipmat. 201

WILD WEST SALOON Kry Is

CLASSVAL

Pritchett (country), Claude Lapaime \$56 at Winspear box office

BACKROOM VODKA BAR Deep Wednesdays: Soulful Deep House with Nic-E and Smoov

BLACKDOG FREEHOUSE Stanley Carroll spins on the Wooftop,

Glitter Guich Wednesdays Many FORUE OF THE WAST THOUSE every Wednesday with DJ Buster Friendly, live music once a month BUDDY'S Hump day with DJ

Sexxxy Sean FEVER NIGHTCLUB Industry

Wednesdays

PLUM LOUNGE MANNE BAR ROLL

THE FOX Wind-up Wednesdays Classic R&B, hip hop, reggae, old shool, reggaeton with Invinceable Touch It, Lady Vishus, guest OJ **HULBERT'S** Wobbly Wednesday downtempo, smooth jazz, with DJ

LEGENDS PUB Hip hop/R&B with DJ Spincycle

RED STY LINES INVEST Robobot DJ 3000

PAULE DIALKONE'S A WARE '80s metal every Wednesday RED STAR Funk 'n' Soul' funk, soul, disco, nu jazz, reggae, hip hop with Cool Curt, Yuri, Junior Brown Heine

STALMASD WEST COMP Wild Feat with DJ Nesto Celar

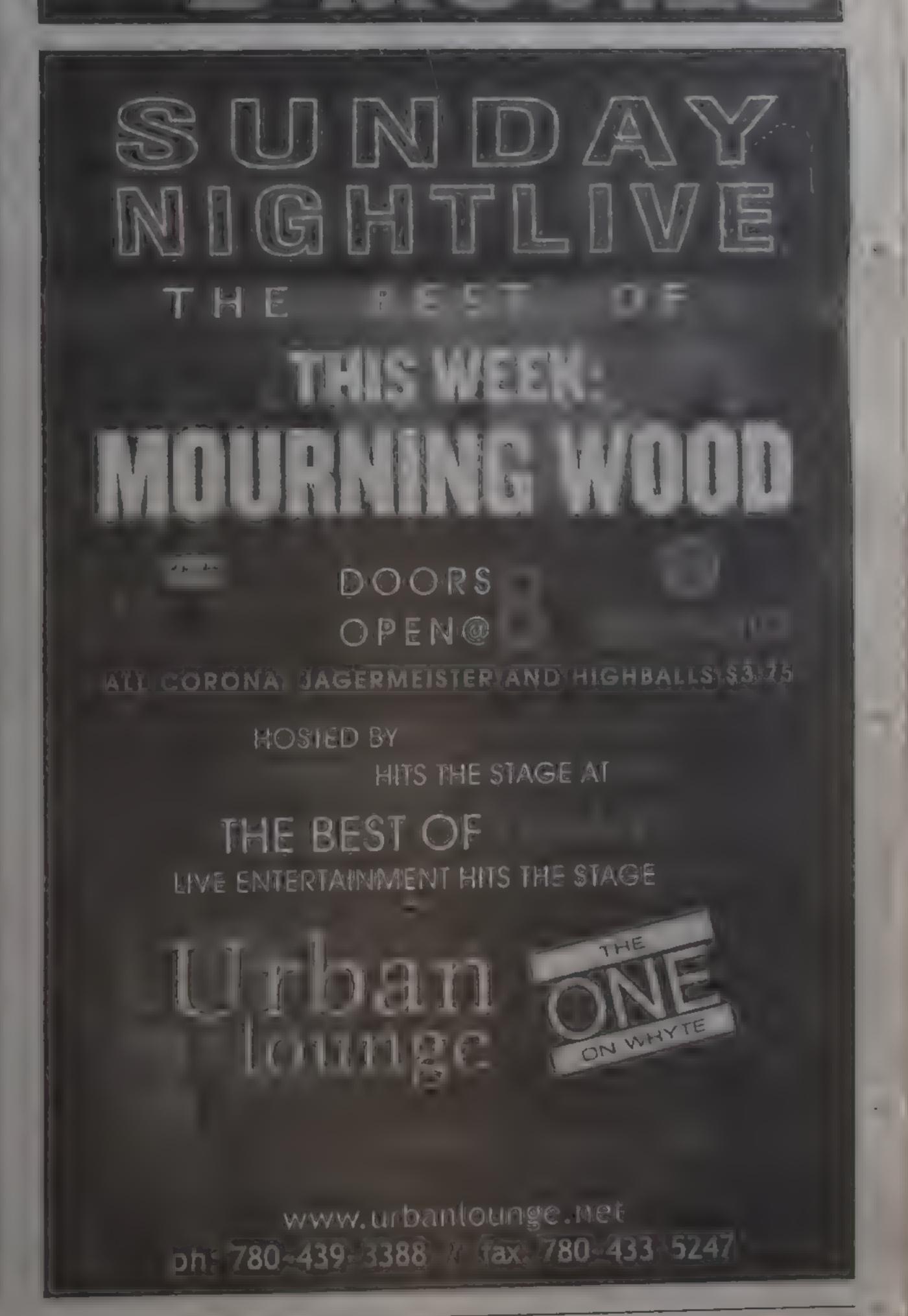
STOTUS WAS CREEK House/garage with Tric wat his Bezidnt Funk fusion with Sleve Velocity

RELYET CHANGE BE REMAINED I Indie, Med, Rock, Electro Dance Party with the Jbots; no cover new DJ, na cover

Y AS SHEOURS Y KILL Wednesdays

WWW.URBARLOUNGE.NET 0544-82 AVE PH:437.7695 ON WHYTE WWW.THEONEONWHYTE.CO. ALL OF THE GREAT LIVE MUSIC YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM THE URBAN LOUNGE IN A SWEET NEW LIVE VENUE! 20.0





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You Ain't Getting My Country, Divorcees warn

1.73 (1.13 A SK) / tara@wareaweakly.com

I a hunch of bean counters are in taling what you should like," begins Alex Maden, vocalist/guitarist for New The Divorcees, Well you're not going to sound like yourself-you're gonna sound like a bunch of bean counters."

Madsen has many words to share about the current state of country music and has admitted that the Divorcees are looking to revive that old time outlaw renegade sound.

"When left to its own devices," says Madsen, "modern country radio will play it safe. I see why they do it—they want to protect themselves but what happens is that box that everything fits in gets smaller and smaller I don't think that's a good idea, and in the end it turns on them. I guess my main issue right now is that there are a lot of potential artists out there who don't get the chance because they feel they have to toe the line and be a certain sound or style: focus group country.

"Then you get guys that have to come along like Dwight Yoakam, Steve Earle and Corb Lund," he con-



tinues. "They open it up like Waylon did back in the '70s when he said, 'Somethin's gotta change.' It's not so much a calling out of Nashville as much as it is kinda grabbin' Nashville by the shoulders and givin' them a little shake saying, 'Wake up!' You hold things to the wheel and you gotta come around and open those borders up a bit."

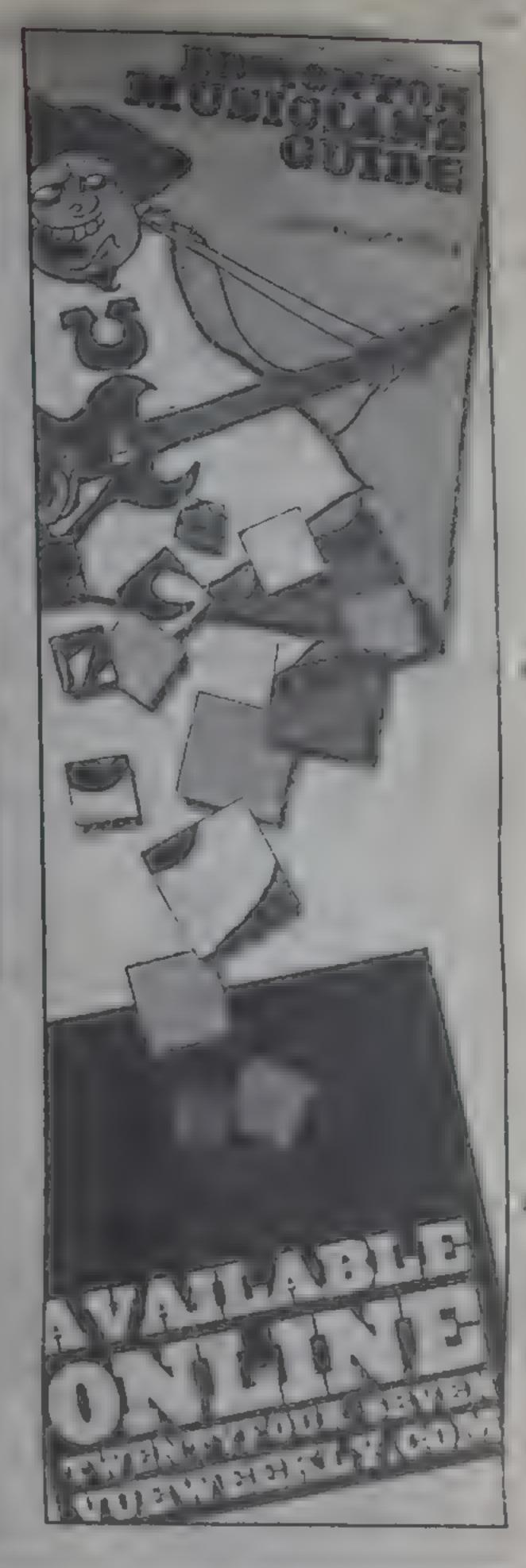
THE DIVORCEES REPRESENTS an evergrowing renaissance of outlaw country with a unified hankering for their heroes: Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings and the rest. Since its rise two years ago, the band has released one full-length, You Ain't Getting my Country, with talk of another one coming out after the band tries a few of their new ballads on the road

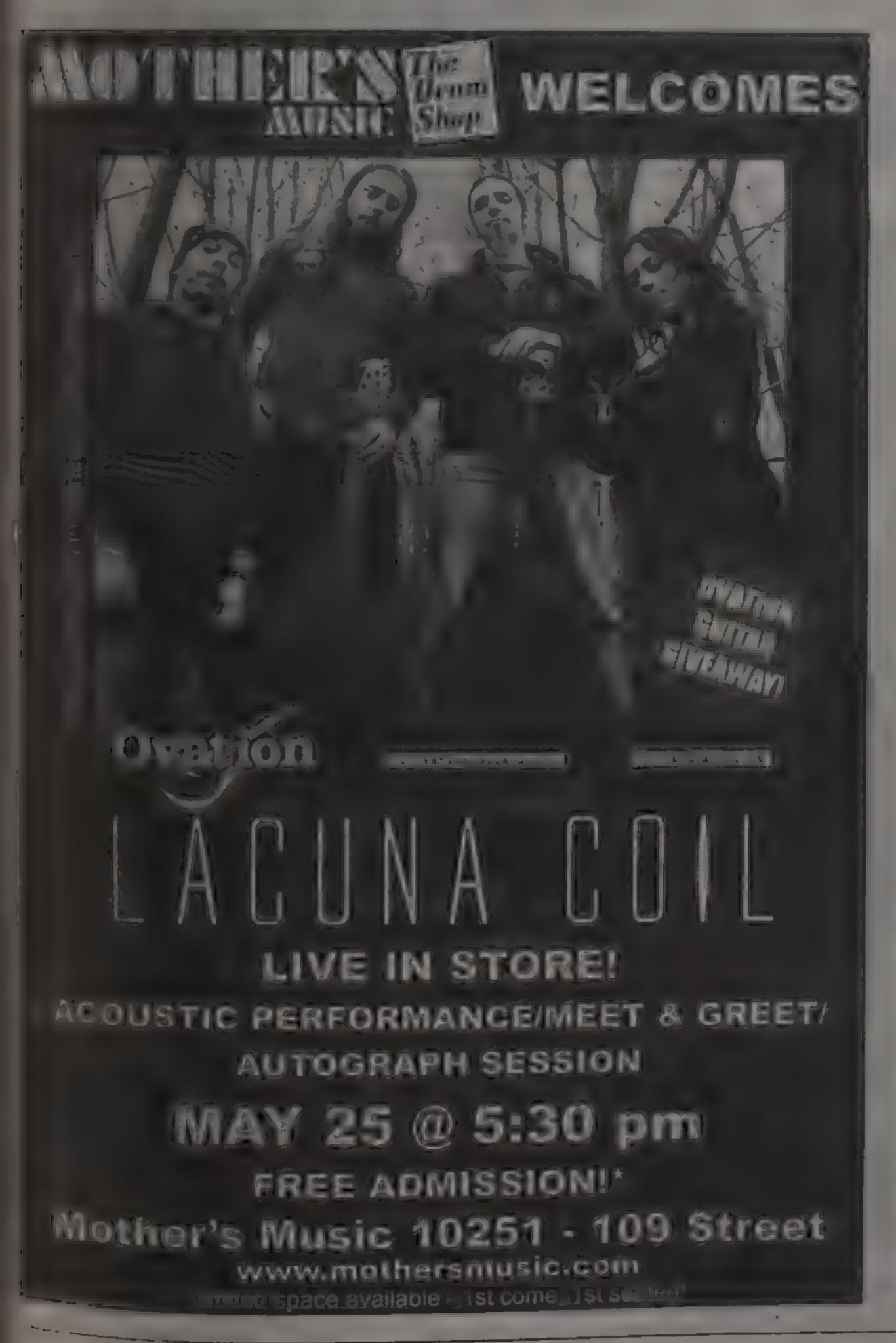
Things seem to be going over well for the band; Madsen says that at any given show there are 60-year-olds up there on the dance floor, arm and arm with their 19-year-old sons, all enjoy-

MUSIC

ing the music equally

"We get a lot of people coming up and saying, 'Thank you for playing country the way that it's supposed to be played," Madsen says, adding that if you like that old bar room brawlin' sound, that honky tonk-type of go, you're going to love the Divorcees "We don't over do it, we don't over think it. We just get on stage, turn everything on and go. Get ready for some good ol' fashioned trucker country." V







VUEWEEKLY



DOORS 8 PM - 18+ 1D REQ. TIX ALSO AT MEGATUNES



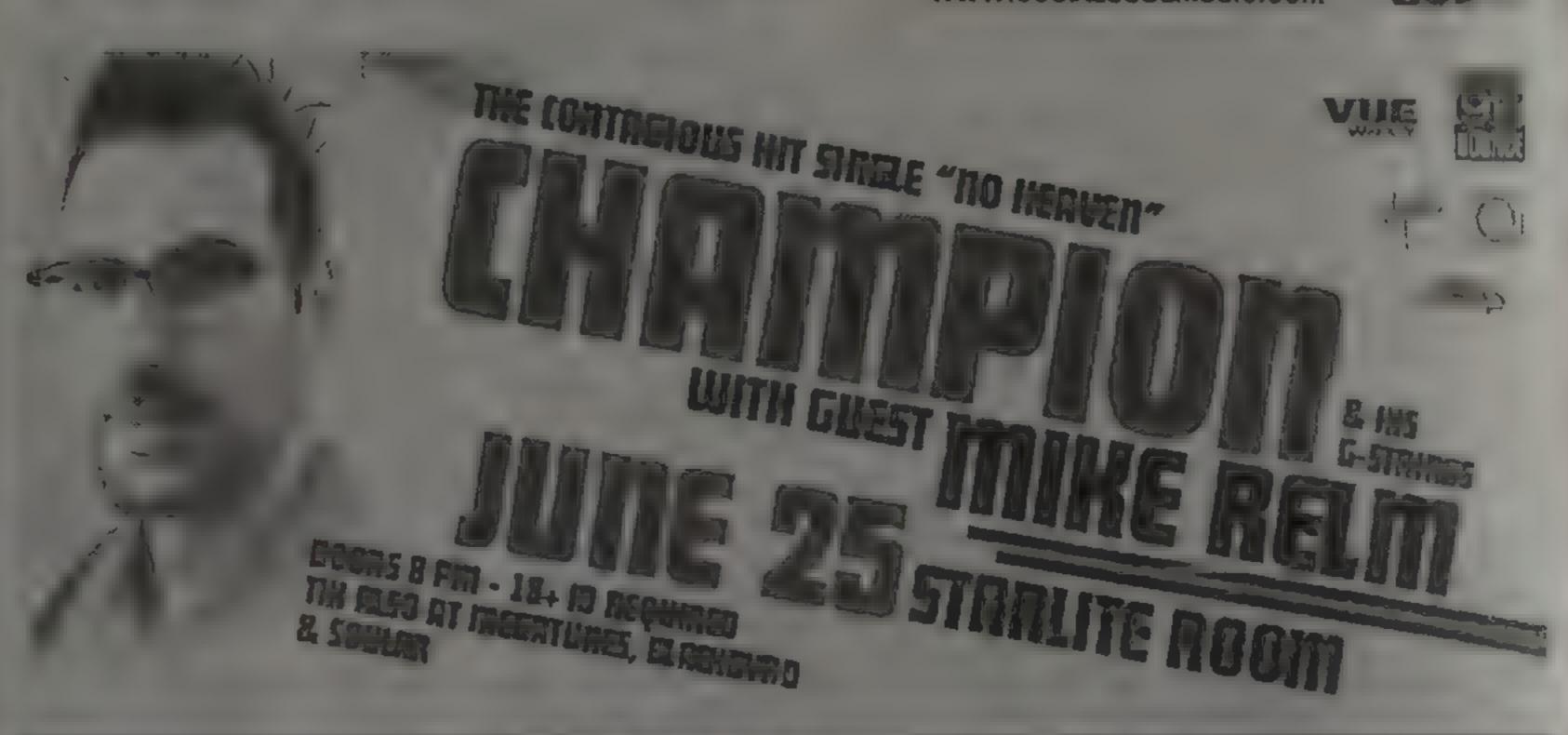
WINDER DOWN STONE

POUR AMP DATHING ZOOF , death . ig

DOORS 7 PM - ALL AGES - TIX ALSO AT MEGATUNES, BLACKBYRD, FS (WEM), FREEGLOUD

THE TO THE TO SEPTEMBER OF THE SEPTEMBER SEPTE

MINT.



M. A. PLUS BURWE ONE DIZEC HENDRIE DOORS 8 PM - 18 + ID REQUIRED THE SALLS O ANT WILL CATTURIES, BLACKOBYRUD,

SOULAR & FOOSH

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CET THE LATEST NEWS ON PRESALES AT MYSPACE COMMUNIONEVENTS



Look out, local rockers have only just Frosted the Tipz of the iceberg

DEL KELLY / jeel@vseweekly.com

Tipz has gone on for so long—the Tipz have suffered verything from broken arms to losng members to other bands to cancelled shows in the past year—to synonymous with getting stymied in dmonton's music community.

However, as bassist Alan Hildetrandt explains, things are definitely ooking up for the Tipz—even with the recent replacement of their lead

"It wasn't working out as well as it ould have and she had a few other sponsibilities so she couldn't fully ommit to the band," Hildebrandt says if the band's previous singer, Roz Thristian. Amy van Keeken of the Secretaries, has assumed vocal luties, and Hildebrandt is ecstatic 1th the result.

She's so much fucking better," he says. "She's incredible."

That being said, he harbours no ill ill towards Christian, saying that the split was a mutual decision.

eeken from the Secretaries after nembers of the Tipz were lifted in the ery same way, delaying the Frosted ipz s debut EP, Head vs Hips, is not on Hildebrandt. He says it's just a '11 of the game.

"We kind of poached her—it's all elty incestuous," he admits. "I'm eeling a little guilty about that.



THU, MAY 24 (7 PM)
FROSTED TIPZ
WITH YOU SAY PARTY! WE SAY DI

We're just passing the venom around, I guess."

However, according to Hildebrandt, the change of personnel comes at just the right time as the band heads into the studio to record a full-length follow up to Head vs Hips, which he says is definitely coming out this summer

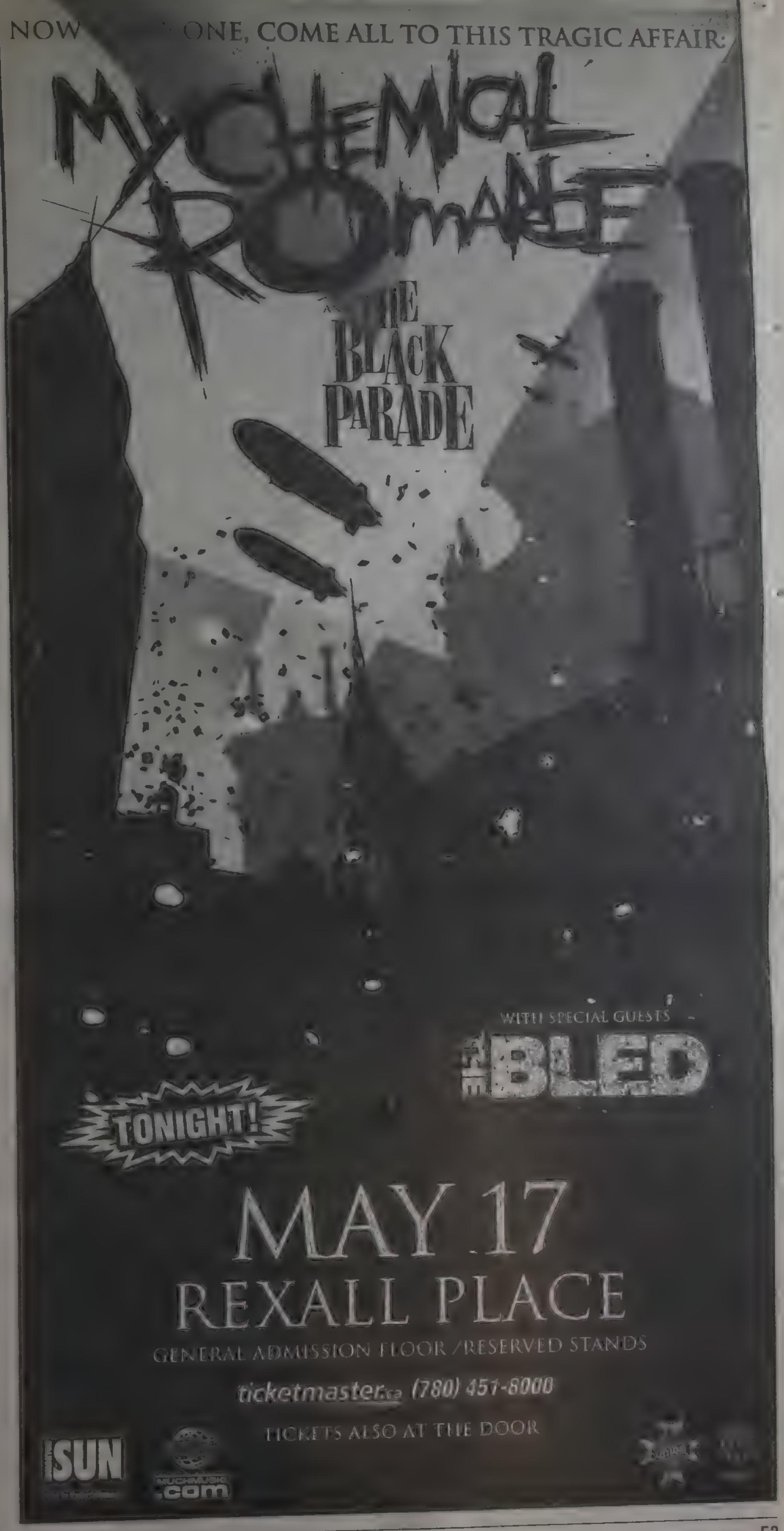
"On the EP, we were stretching our legs," he says. "It came off kind of cold-sounding, but we were just trying to experiment. Our real strength lies in our live performance, which has a lot more of a rock feel. With our new singer, she's more into that; I'm excited to see how it translates to the studio."

Hildebrandt confesses there are some definite perks to playing in a female-led band, which he says has landed them gigs opening for other acts starring XX chromosomes such as Metric and You Say Party! We Say Die!

"We're the only female-fronted rock band in Edmonton right now," he says. "There's not a lot of [female-led groups], and no one as heavy as us.

"I don't have a problem with that.

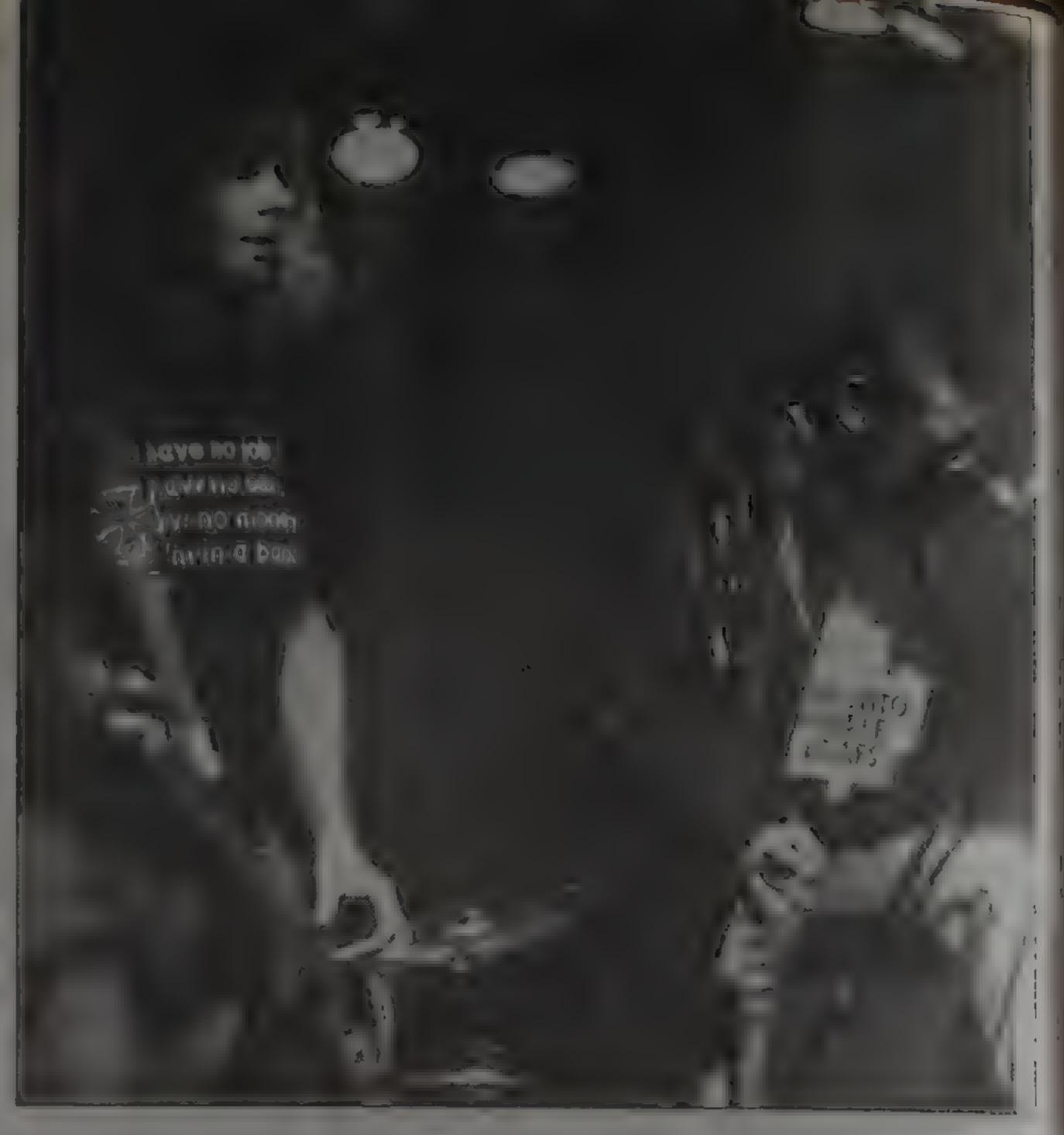
I'd rather be concerned with being pigeon-holed as a musical genre than if someone wants to come to our show to ogle our singe."



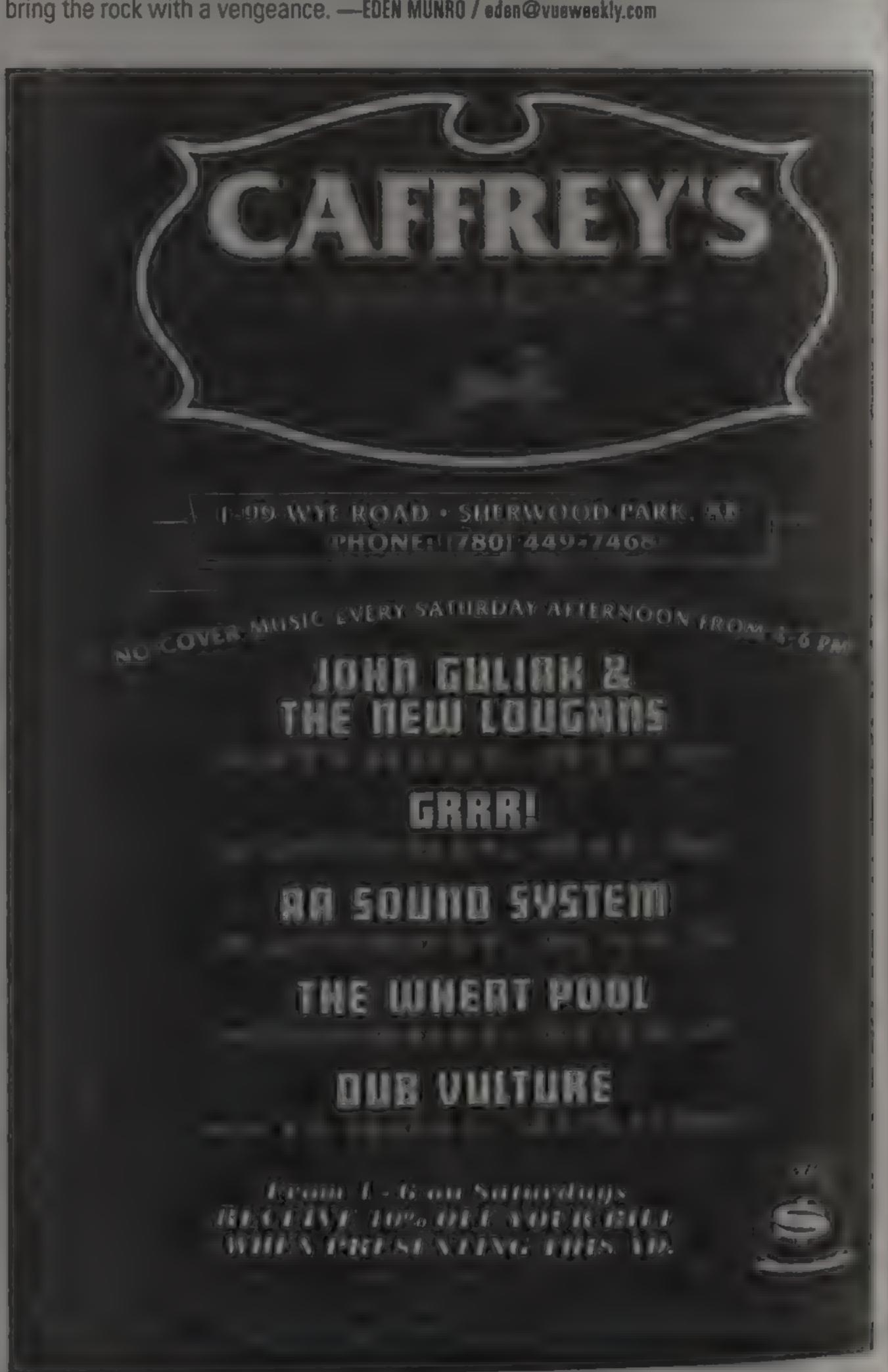


PREVUE / SUN, MAY 20 / MSTRKRFT / WITH TOMME SUNSHINE / THE BANK, \$20 Apparently, there's a strable containing of MSTRKRFT fans here in Edmonton. Just five months after they took over the Citadel Theatre for New Year's Eve, the electronic duo of Jesse Keelor and Al-P is coming back, this time to hit the Bank on Jasper Avenue. They'll be paired up with remixing raver Tommie Sunshine, and the whole thing will be followed by an after party at Y Afterhours featuring Toronto's Luke Fair, so you might want to start getting ready for another long night of dancin'. --- EDEN MUNRO / eden@v#eweekly.com

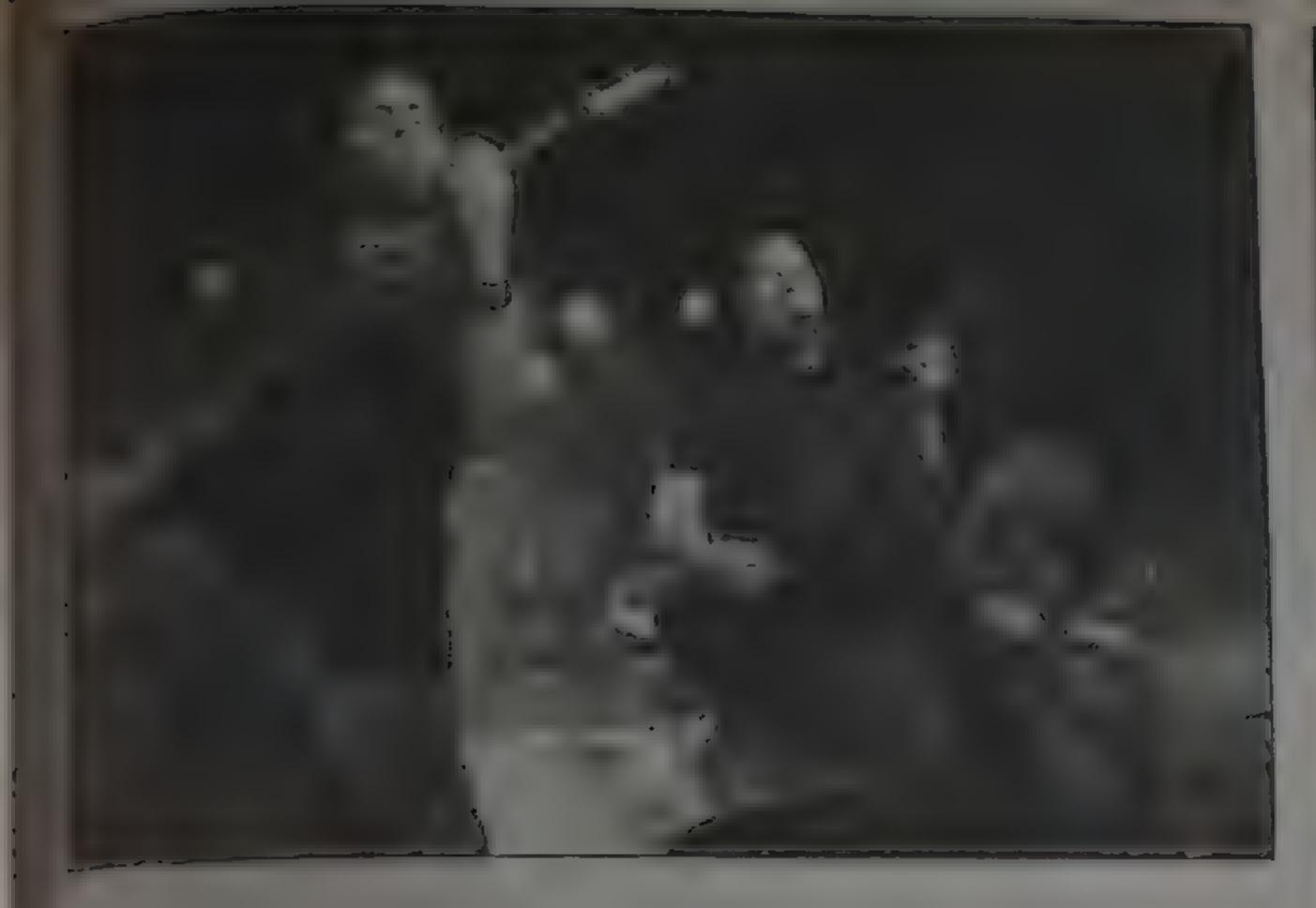




REVUE / THU, MAY 10 / TEENAGE HEAD / STARLITE ROOM There's a fine line to war. when it comes to fashion and time. If you're young enough, you can wear something old-like a windbreaker-and claim it's retro, whereas someone a little bit older car end up looking like they're still hanging on to the threads of their lost youth. But then there's someone like Teenage Head's frontman Frankie Venom. A guy with a name like that, who's been around the block a few times -- maybe even more -- can wear a fringed leather jacket and rock it like the old punk that he is, looking very much steadfast in h refusal to bend to the times. And on top of Venom's attire, guitarist Gordie Lewis bev his amp when the Head took to the stage at the Starlite. So, yeah, the old guys can conbring the rock with a vengeance. — EDEN MUNRO / eden@vueweekly.com



PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THE BREAKFAST PROGRAM AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSIST SCHOOL



There's no sittin' idle for Calgary's Sittin' Idol

BRYAN BIRTLES / bryan@vueweekly.com

roll, one of the things you might associate it with is boobs. Call it a stereotype, but a lot of rockers seem to share a fixation for buxom ladies.

doesn't seem to be high on the list of priorities for many bands, but Calgary rockers Sittin' Idol are an exception. The group will be participating, for the third year in a row, in Driven by Compassion, a breast cancer benefit show next Thursday, and they couldn't be happier

"Not only is it a great time, it's also for a good cause," explains Sittin' Idol guitarist Rick Hatch. "We're always happy to help out with something like that."

The band also gets to head up the Queen Elizabeth II Highway to one of their favounte places to play. The guys in the band—Hatch, Scott Lennox on vocals and guitar, Mark Fassina on bass and the singularly named Stu on drums—don't believe in the rivalry

THU, MAY 24 (8 PM)

SITTIN' IDOL

WITH MARBLE ENGINE, THE B-MOVIES

ALL ELSE FAILS

THE DNE ON WHYTE, STO

that exists between the two cities.

"IT EXISTS AS FAR as some things like hockey, but some people take it too personally," laughs Hatch, mentioning that the band has come to appreciate our city's nurturing scene. "The Edmonton scene seems really supportive as far as fans going out to shows and bands being supportive. In Calgary, bands tend to compete a bit more."

The guys are also looking forward to repeating the success they've had the last few times they've driven up. Hatch explains that they'll know when they're doing well because they can just feel it when they're on stage.

"When the crowd's really into it you can tell they're into it and give back that energy," he says. "It makes you play harder."

SUMMEGULIAK

1. THE STREET AS

make you think about your own life and the similarities that run through

WSPELLIN FIR GULLAK IS INCH always found so far from home, though. Like 50 many of today's best musicians, Guliak's music must share space in his life with his day job—in his case, doing doing assessment and case management for youth-at-risk, helping them get into life and employment Skills programs. While that makes it harder to find the time to write—he admits that he's never been the kind of songwriter who can just sit down and work; rather, he feels that he has to be ready when an idea comes along-living his life also fuels his creativity in the same way as travel, by getting him to think about the World from different perspectives.

Guliak notes that the boom here in

Edmonton has a downside that he sees often in his work.

"I'm seeing a lot of mid-20s people who are thinking they're coming here for the Klondike. There's a lot of Tim Hortons and McDonald's jobs out there, but try to afford a place to rent with that kind of wage."

The problem is not restricted to Edmonton, though. Guliak says that he's seen the same thing in all of the cities he's lived in.

"There's families where both parents are working and they're living in poverty. I get the sense that Edmonton is fairly conscious of their urban poor, but they're forgotten everywhere—that's why they're poor. It's pretty rough out there.

"Living in the inner cities of Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, and now here, it's a pretty consistent theme," he continues quietly. "Hard to ignore. I write about it because I want it to be discussed. Should we sweep things under the carpet? Maybe we should see it, but we should talk about it."





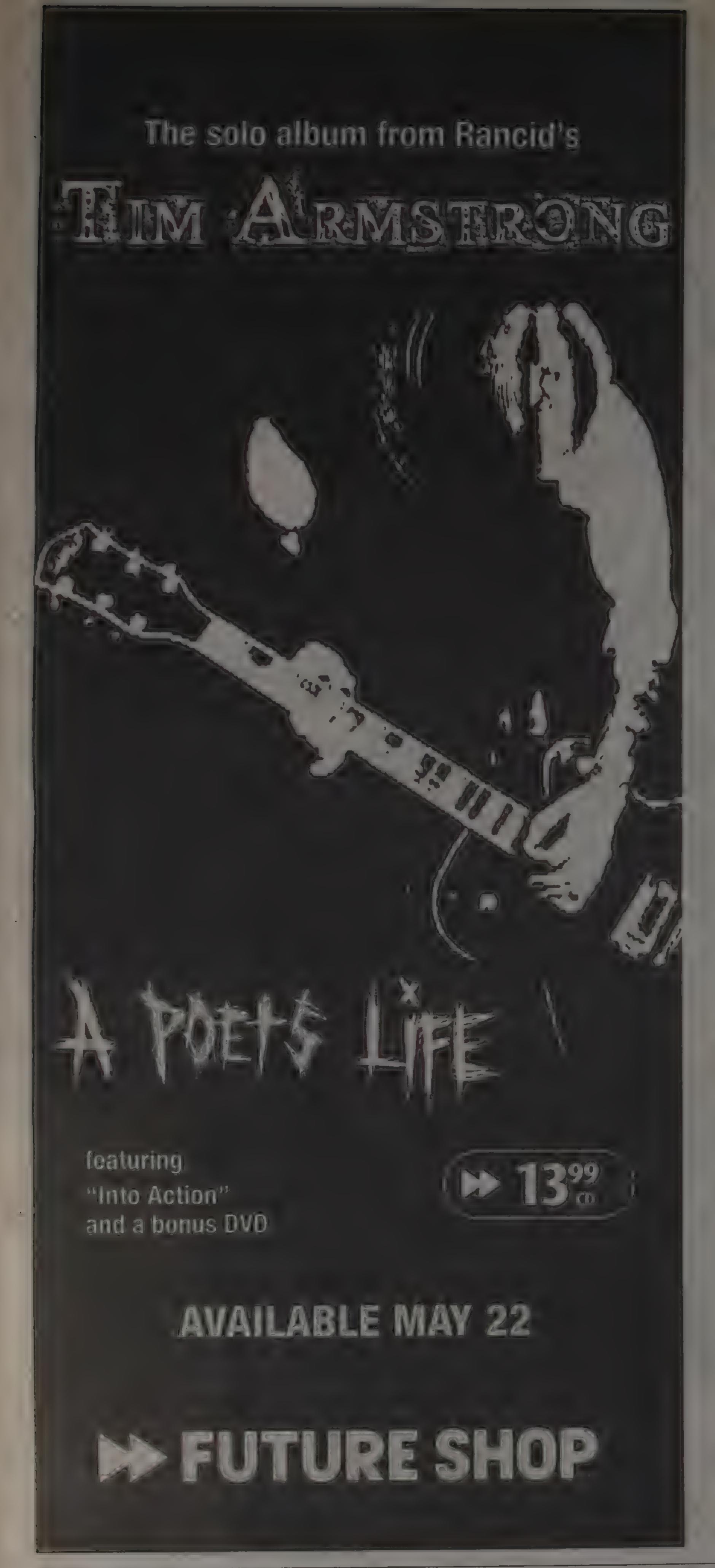












McRae is going to Nashville with a banjo on her knee

EDEN MUNAO / eden@vueweekly.com

musicians to places like Vancouver and Toronto, but now Vancouver is going to feel a little bit of that pain as one its long-running musicians pulls up her roots and heads south for the music mecca of Nashville.

Linda McRae, who has played with everyone from Spirit of the West to Rodney DeCroo, is getting married and leaving the West Coast for the more affordable living spaces to the south.

"My fiancé and I bought a house down there, so he's there right now tearing up carpet and ripping out walls," McRae explains over the phone from her half-packed Vancouver apartment. "It's just really, really cheap. You could buy 10 houses for what you can buy here. It's unfortunate, but Vancouver has just gotten

While the skyrocketing Canadian housing market has played a role in McRae's decision to leave Vancouver, the transition will be eased somewhat by the fact that Nashville is a creative hotbed for musicians.

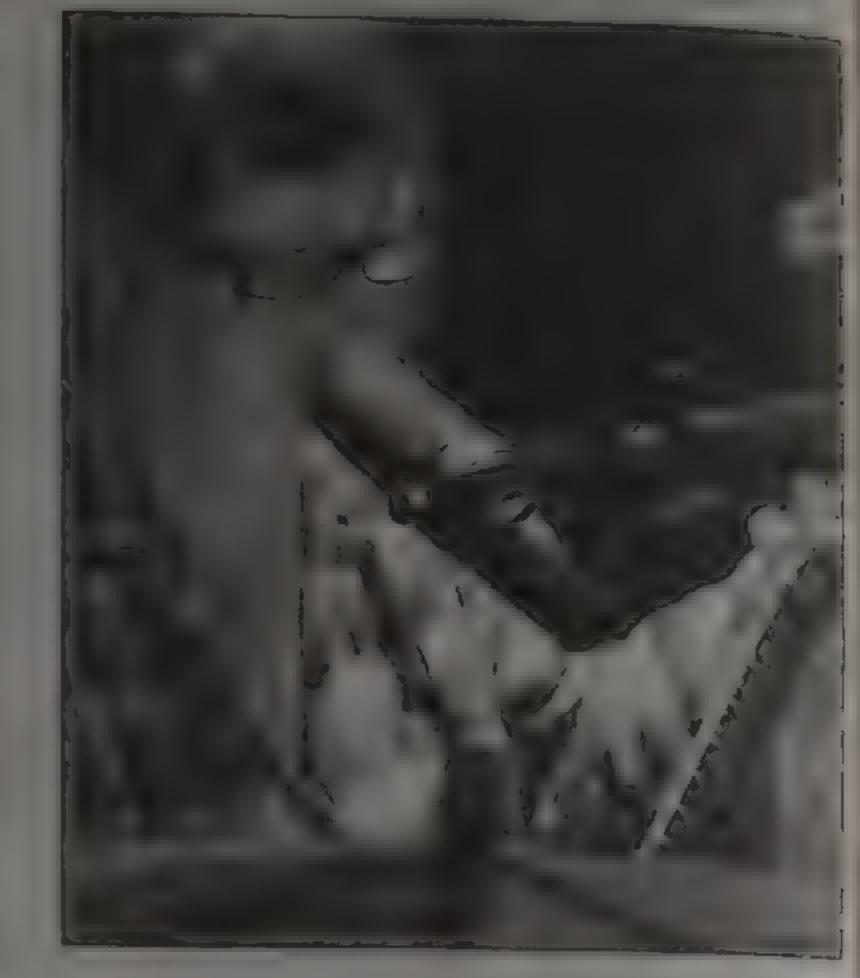
"The music scene in Nashville is pretty amazing," McRae admits. "There are a lot of really incredible songwriters and there's a lot of stuff going on there."

It's important to McRae that she is able to keep her creative fires burning. Despite having a lengthy career in music—not to mention that she's just released, Carve It to the Heart, her third solo album—she insists on learning new things and pushing herself as a songwriter. And while many songwriters say things like that, McRae has actually done something about it.

Last year, she ventured down to a songwriting camp, where other songwriters gathered together with the express purpose of creating, and McRae says that it was one of the best things she could have done.

"It was really inspiring, and it was wonderful to be someplace where you were cut off from the outside world," she remembers. "We had no phones, you couldn't us a computer, we were totally shut off from everything else and you're just there with the sole purpose of learning and writing. It was really great and I'm going again this year."

took up a new instrument—the banjo—and then headed off to a banjo camp. She says that the nuances of the instrument have resulted in a change to her writing style when she's playing it.



FRI, MAY 18 (8 PM)

LINDA MCRAE

WITH STEVE PINEO, ANN LORES

BLUE CHAIR CAFE, \$20

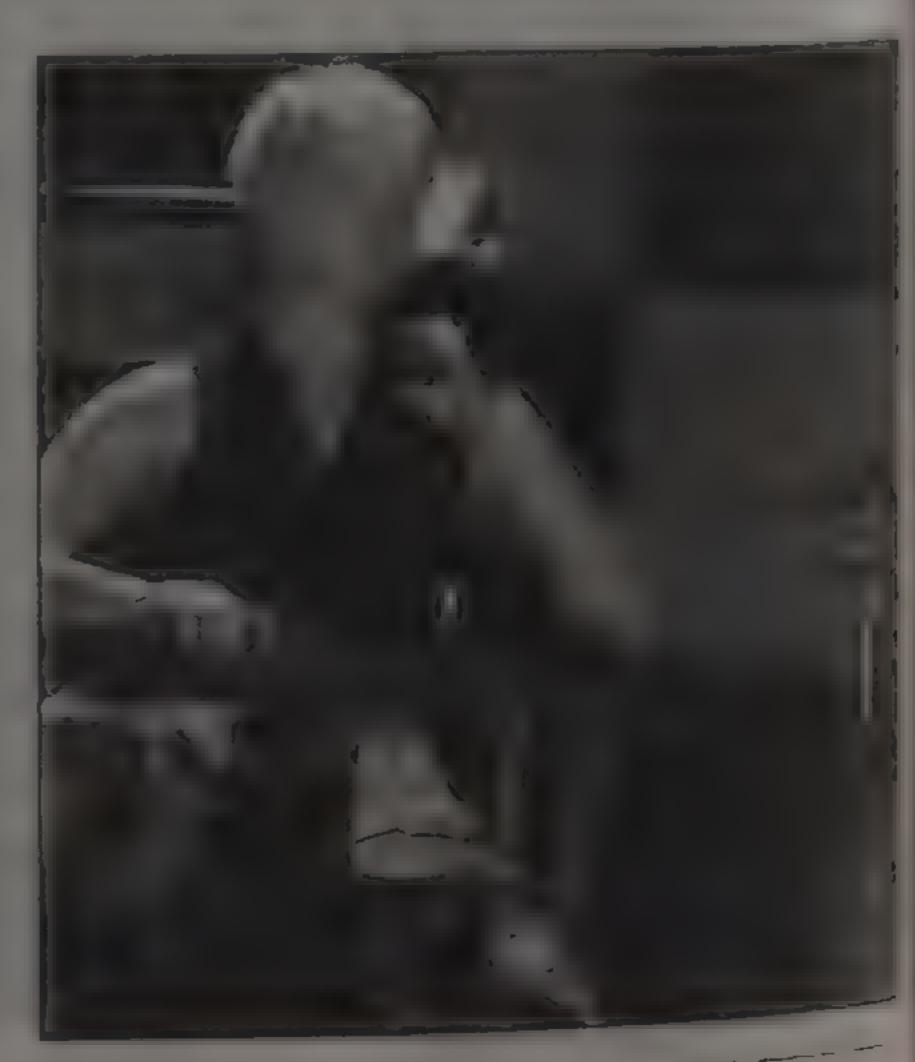
"The banjo, because the style I'm playing is such an old-time style—the 'clawhammer' it called, and it really lends itself to playing solo because it's incredibly rhythmic, so it's like a full band itself—and because I'm learning and don't really approach it the way that a lot of clawhammer players do, it comes out sounding different from any other songs that I've written on other instruments."

While the particulars of the style may be different from what McRae is used to, she says the in some ways the banjo has taken her back to her early days with Spirit of the West

"A lot of the banjo music is tunes, sort of like Celtic music—when I was in Spirit of the West we would go into pubs in Britain and people would sit there and play for hours and hours and hours and they wouldn't stop, they would just keep constantly playing tunes and one would run into the other and everybody know a I these tunes—it's kind of the same thing with the banjo.

"For me being a songwriter, I take some of the ideas of those tunes and mish mash it ill together," she continues. "It's just like any other style, borrowing from folk music, or rock or country."

REVUE / WED, MAY 9 / MURDER BY DEATH / **NEW CITY** Having never before heard Murder By Death, and ultimately uncertain from the vague description of "orchestral country-metal rockers," I knew I was in for a unique live show—for better or for worse. The capacity crowd at New City was treated to a stunning performance that will not be forgotten by anyone in attendance anytime soon. Lead singer Adam Turla delivered haunting, twangy ballads over what can best be described as a three-piece country band plus a cello, with a very dark edge. Yes, it was Sarah Balliet's flawless accompaniment on the electric cello and organ that stole the show; the way her hair was coming undone from her headband mirroring the strings on her bow, as she graciously attacked her instrument, was not lost on anyone, I'm sure. Between songs, one fan put it best, shouting out, "I love you, cello!" -REVIEW BY MIKE GARTH / michael@vueweekly.com PHOTO BY AMANDA FERGUSON / amanda@vueweekly.com



Grease up those pompadours, the Gutter Demons are coming!

(PIRILES / bryan@vueweekly.com

that if you like it, chances are exeryone knows you like it.

Sably have a double bass, a motorbike, a gigantic pomand a bowling shirt (if you're a lime fishnets or other pin-up

GUTTER DEMONS

GUTTER DEMONS

INTER PAYSUN COWBOYS, JUKEBOX SHO

JULIA STO

ho like psychobilly seem to look the moreso than any other subcul
(Except maybe crust punks, but at's another story entirely ...)

One look at Montréal's Gutter
emons—with their greased pomdours and hot-rod stage attire—and
hu know they like psychobilly and

that you're in for some hard and fast twangy punk sounds when you go and see them. Flipper, who wields double bass for the group, has some idea why psychobilly culture is so visually identifiable.

"[Psychobilly] started as a reaction to politics in the punk scene in the '80s," he says of a time when punk was getting more into abstract ideas and less into fun. "Psychobilly took a bit from every subculture, so to be different we had to go to extremes."

IT MIGHT SEEM ODD for three francophones from la belle province to be touring the world singing English songs about zombies and serial killers, but Flipper explains that the band wanted to be able to reach as many people as they could. Psychobilly is, after all, a rather small scene on the whole, but pockets seem to exist no matter where you go, which



makes it quite widespread in a way.

"The decision [to sing in English] was pretty obvious for us," he says. "If you want to play a style of music that's not really popular you can have the opportunity to play it all over the

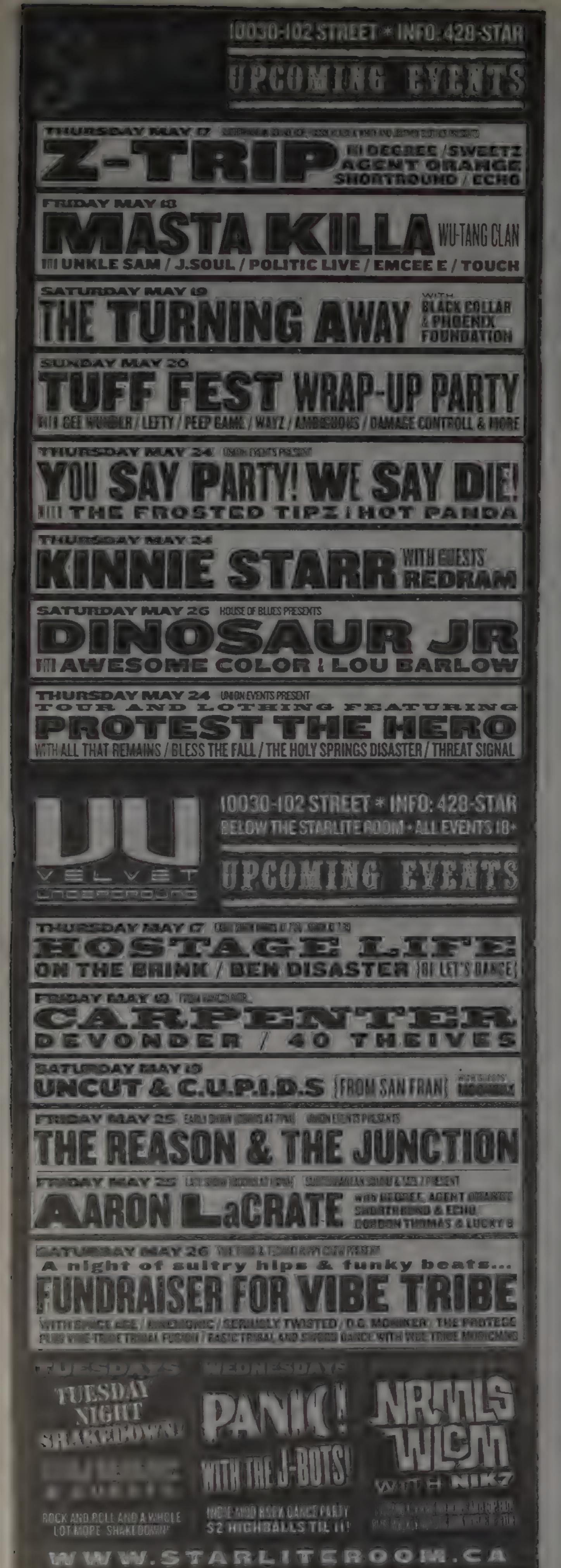
world if you sing in English."

And though they may be from the province that some people around here just love to hate, they don't hold it against us. In fact, Flipper says, their last tour seemed to really hit its stride

in the Western provinces

"The western part of Canada was the best part last time. With Alberta's country background people were like, 'Hey that's cool,'" he says "They could relate to the rhythm."





SOUNDS SOUNDS









FEIST THE REMINDER ARTS & CHAFTS

MARY CHRISTA O'KEEFE / marychrista@vueweekly.com

The Reminder is just that—
one big audio string around
the finger of our minds;
Leslie Feist's contention is
that she's more an artistic force than
aggregate of free-floating hype who
sings pretty, palatable music.

More so than on 2004's Let It Die, Feist's voice is used as an instrument, introduced bare on most tracks to establish mastery over the song before coating it in banjo or lofting it over soaring brass or juxtaposing it with a choir later on. It's the rightful pride of place for such a gorgeous and emotive instrument—broken on "The Water," freewheeling and gently deranged on "My Moon My Man," feral and exuberant on "I Feel It All," curling and rising like smoke on "The Limit to Your Love."

What snags her so many comparisons to old-timey chanteuse types—besides her offbeat-yet-accessible appeal, Paris-loving ways and gender—is that she's a song stylist of the highest order, surrounded by a stable of colleagues who share her aesthetic adventurousness. Together, they have nearly unassailable pop sensibilities combined with a dedication to manifesting songs with as much bloom of originality as possible within an idiom that relies on familiarity for emotional impact.

So: Nina Simone for her enigmatic simplicity, Astrud Gilberto for her vocal bareness, Dionne Warwick (before she blew) for her ability to unleash the emotional heart of a song through phrasing, Blossom Dearie for her uncompromising intellect and wit, Kate Bush for her daffy theatricality. More than comparisons, The Reminder

posits these as Feist's equals.

WUUDDAIGEUN HOUNDSTOOTH RECLARELE

MARY CHRISTA O'KEEFE / marychrista@vueweekly.com

Dike a Fabergé egg, a Woodpigeon work is an immediate
attention-grabber—so darling, so delicate, such an intimate treasure. But you'd be remiss if
you failed to feel around for the catch
and spring it, opening up songs and

you failed to feel around for the catch and spring it, opening up songs and albums to see the clockwork whirlwind beneath the glimmering surfaces.

Houndstooth is no exception

Woodpigeon's new six-track release is currently available only online as a free download (check the band's sites or their label's site for links), seemingly the least intimate of venues to deliver a most heartfelt album, but at least this modern vagary of commerce is democratic. Songwriter, choirmas-· ter, and frontman Mark Hamilton's sweet whispery vocals relay his confessional, observation-laden novelistic narratives with the wry mannered wordplay he honed on last year's Sketchbook and Songbook. But far from the otherworldly and sometimes madcap feel of those releases, Houndstooth's tales are inexorably human rather than twee, more than anything, about the exhaustion of romantic frustration—the disappointment of ambiguous endings, the silent recrimination of one's own desires, the unmet and unacknowledged needs.

Hamilton and colleagues fight this unpleasantness with an arsenal of melody, building fabulous constructions of girl-powered la-la-las, sparkling instrumentation and dappled Brit-folk rhythmic bones to con-

tain the heartbreak.

With a weighty wonderland of grown-up sorrows and thoughtfully crafted orchestral pop to be found within its prettiness, Houndstooth deserves to be sought out and squir reled away for private, full and repeat ed listening.

HOT PANDA WHALE HEADED GIRL

BRYAN BIRTLES / bryan@vueweekly.com

from an okay one is how you feel after having lis tened to it. If you finish and you think the songs were pretty good then it's just okay. If, however, once the EP is finished you feel a profound sense of sadness that EPs by their very nature are cruelly short, then you've just listened to a wicked one.

Well, pass the Kleenex. Sounding like an updated version of the Modern Lovers, Hot Panda blasts out the gates brandishing an EP with which you will annoy your roommates by putting the same five songs on repeat indefinitely. From the haunting organ of the title track to the manic ending of "winter beat," to the quiet but no less driving tone of "chinatown bus," this album succeed at nearly all times.

The only complaint I could make about the recording is that there is just a tiny bit of fat in the arrangements that could stand to be trimmed. Tighter songs with quicker changes between parts would deliver a sense of urgency that seems lacking in a band that seems otherwise spastically energetic. But really I'm just nitpicking here. Try the Hot Panda, it's finge Ling-Ling good.

AWOL CHE & FACTOR ONLY DEATH CAN KALL YOU AROXEN

LEWIS KELLY / lewis@vueweekly.com



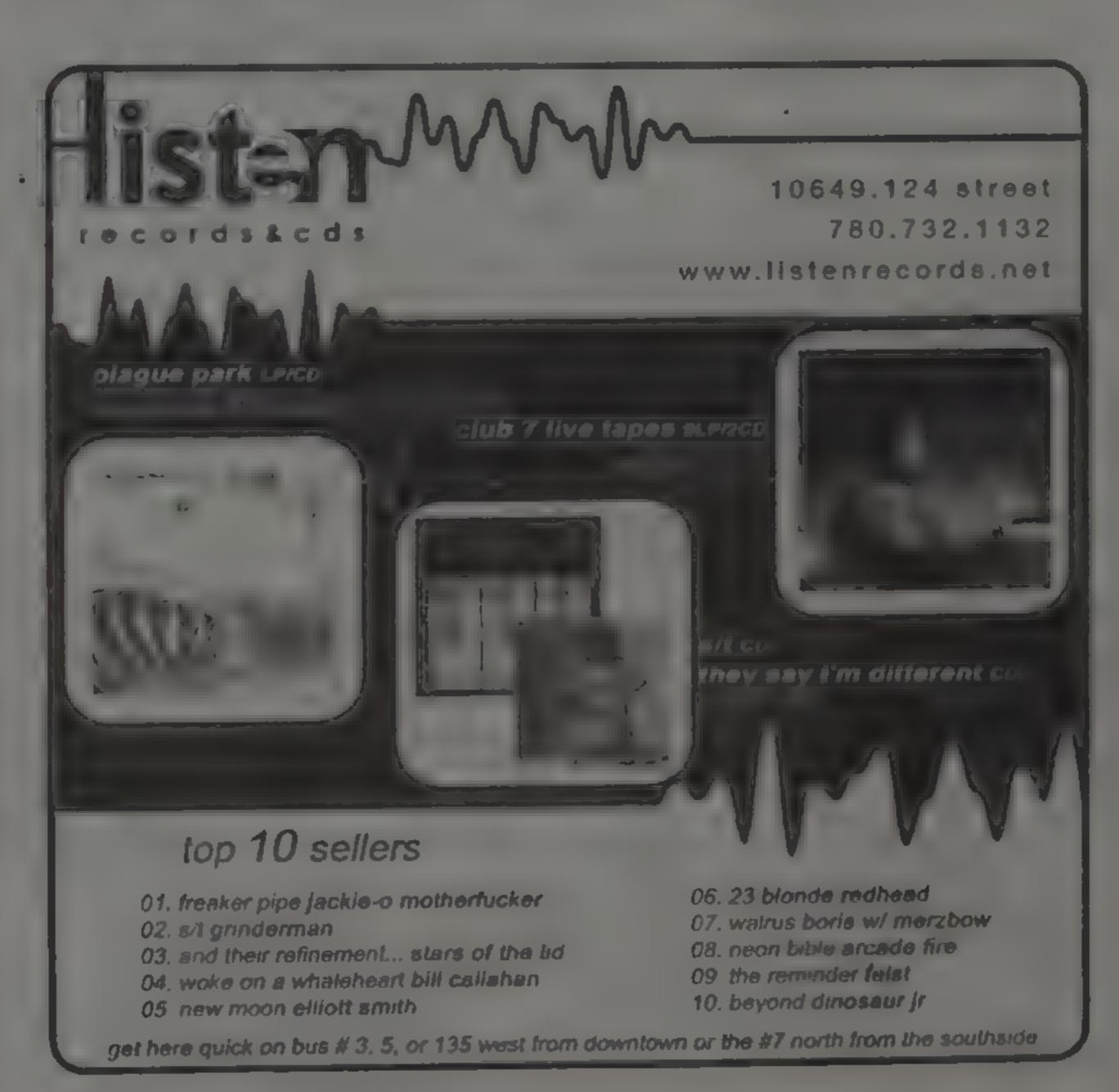
The majority of modern he hop songs can be crude divided into two categories.

K First is the kind of rap popular

larized by MCs like 50 Cent, and an one who has been outside their house in the past knows what that's about misogyny, testosterone, SUVs, drug and, most importantly, how make caps one has busted. The other sort deals with, well, everything else for tunately falling into the latter categories California-based veteran MC Avone, aka Tony Martin

Awol's latest release, Only D

Can Kill You, is a collaboration we producer Factor. It features vintage Awol rhymes—slow, quiet, almost disconnected from the beat—over classic, melancholy Factor beats. In record feels casual almost to the poil



I have that that's a bad thing the property Death if you're for hook, shakin' dance in that's your thing, also bl, already knew Awol One

, medically, Awol's greatest draw is also his greatest flaw. His languid, low-key delivery contrasts sharply with the average MC in both rhythm and tone. This contrast is only eightened when he collaborates, as all hip-hop artists are apparently legally bound to do, with other raps. Awol's unique approach to rapring is interesting, but I found it eventually grating on my nerves. On the other hand, Factor puts in a uniormly excellent performance. His beats are complex and intriguing, supporting the vocals without over-" elming them.

only Death Can Kill You is a fine addition to Awol's impressive discography, and his signature style emains as distinct as ever. Whether hat's a reason to run out and buy his record or to avoid it like the plague is up to you

WOODEN STARS
FECTLE ARE DIFFERENT
SINICUNYOR

LIGHTS HELLY / Jawis @ vueweekly com



At long last, Ottawa indie rockers Wooden Stars makes its return with People Are Different. After winning a

Juno in 1999, the members of the band decided to concentrate on other projects, before reuniting in 2004. People Are Different marks the first new material they have released since

Wooden Stars, despite their stereotypical rock-band makeup—two guitars, bass and drums—produces some
distinctly unconventional sounds on
People. The use of dissonance and
syncopation can sometimes elevate a
song to greatness—see "Orphans" or
"Gold Dust"—but, sadly, this isn't
always the case. A few tracks devolve
into pretentious noodling and white
noise—especially "Boating Accident".
Love it or hate it, Wooden Stars'
unique uses of sound sets it apart
from the pack.

The album is only eight tracks long, and the sonic pallet is more or less homogeneous, right down to the nearly-ubiquitous vocal harmonies. People is also a bit of a disappoint-Inent lyrically—soul-stirring words are few and far between, and many of the lynes are, frankly, nonsensical. "I was It your show / the tom-tom thumping made me spill my drink," croons lead Singer Julien Beillard on "Clouds." Yet, When it works, People Are Different manages to rock out in a major way. Overall it's a solid record, if not the 'pectacular show-stopper longtime fans were hoping for.

Cheaper albums translate into rising concert tickets



We all know, when it comes to the world of business, that there's definitely a yin-yang thing going on. Usually, when someone is losing money, another person is making money. When one business collapses, another emerges. That's where Marx totally messed up. He thought capitalism would exhaust itself when, in fact, it always finds new markets to tap into and new ways to renew itself.

Nowhere is this truer than in the music industry. Go back 20 - 30 years and bands put out albums at the frequency of about one every 12 months. That's because touring was a loss leader, a necessary evil. You put on expensive shows, hoped to break even, and then hoped the live shows would create buzz for your albums, where you would make the money back. Basically, a band spent as much time in the studio as it could.

Concert tickets were fairly cheap.
Albums, on the other hand, were expensive.

Now, in an era of the 99-cent song download and rampant online piracy, recorded music is cheap. So the music industry has changed; now, concert tickets cost a bundle. Even a club show for some up-and-coming band will cost the fan over \$30 a pop. Bands stay on the road much longer, and put out albums every three or four years. Basically, the new studio music is a loss leader that encourages fans

to go out to shows and buy merch.

Basically, the industry realized it has a hard time controlling its recorded product; so, the profit-making onus has slowly shifted to the concert end. So, next time you want to buy tickets and gripe that they are \$30 - \$40 apiece, remember that you helped create this monster, by buying into iTunes or downloading a bunch of songs from a shared site.

On Apr 15, Aerosmith played Estadio River Plate in Buenos Aires. Top ticket price was US \$102—imagine that converted into Argentine currency. The show grossed US \$3 892 393, according to Billboard. Decades ago, that kind of gross for a concert would be unheard of. But, as people pay less and less for recorded music, promoters and bands realize that the concert market can bear higher prices

Looking ahead, fans of Gwen Stefani can get good seats at Rexall Place for her upcoming show for \$79.50; the Killers will run you nearly \$50, which is a bargain in today's world of arenarock pricing. Nickelback, hometown boys and all, will cost \$59.50 for good seats

Remember just a few years back, when you could get into a club show for less than \$20 or an arena show was steep at \$35? Those days are over; that's the trade-off for the 99-cent download. And concert tickets are now worth whatever the market will bear. •

Steven Sandor is a former editor-inchief of Vue Weekly, now an editor and author living in Toronto.





WHITEY AND TO PLAYER

quickspins@vueweekly.com

ONE OF THE BOYS

The only person In country music who can Kick kd lang's ass

CHAINAINS DETAILS NOIPEROLNI

Ears bleed and jaws drop
At the sheer awfulness of
This putrid shit heap

SEA WOLF
GET TO THE RIVER
BEFORE IT RUNS TOO LOW

A soothing ear balm Helps to clear my head after Chainfire's stinkfest

CHANGED

KELLY JONES

CHANGED

Ten songs about chicks
They may be memorable
None of the songs are

YEP HOC Softer than kittens Covered in apple sauce, served On a fontanelle

STH ANNUAL END OF THE WORLD TOUR COMEDY CENTRAL

Five legit chuckles
And two groaners punctuate
Endless stand-up disc

SAGE FRANCIS HUMAN THE DEATH DANCE

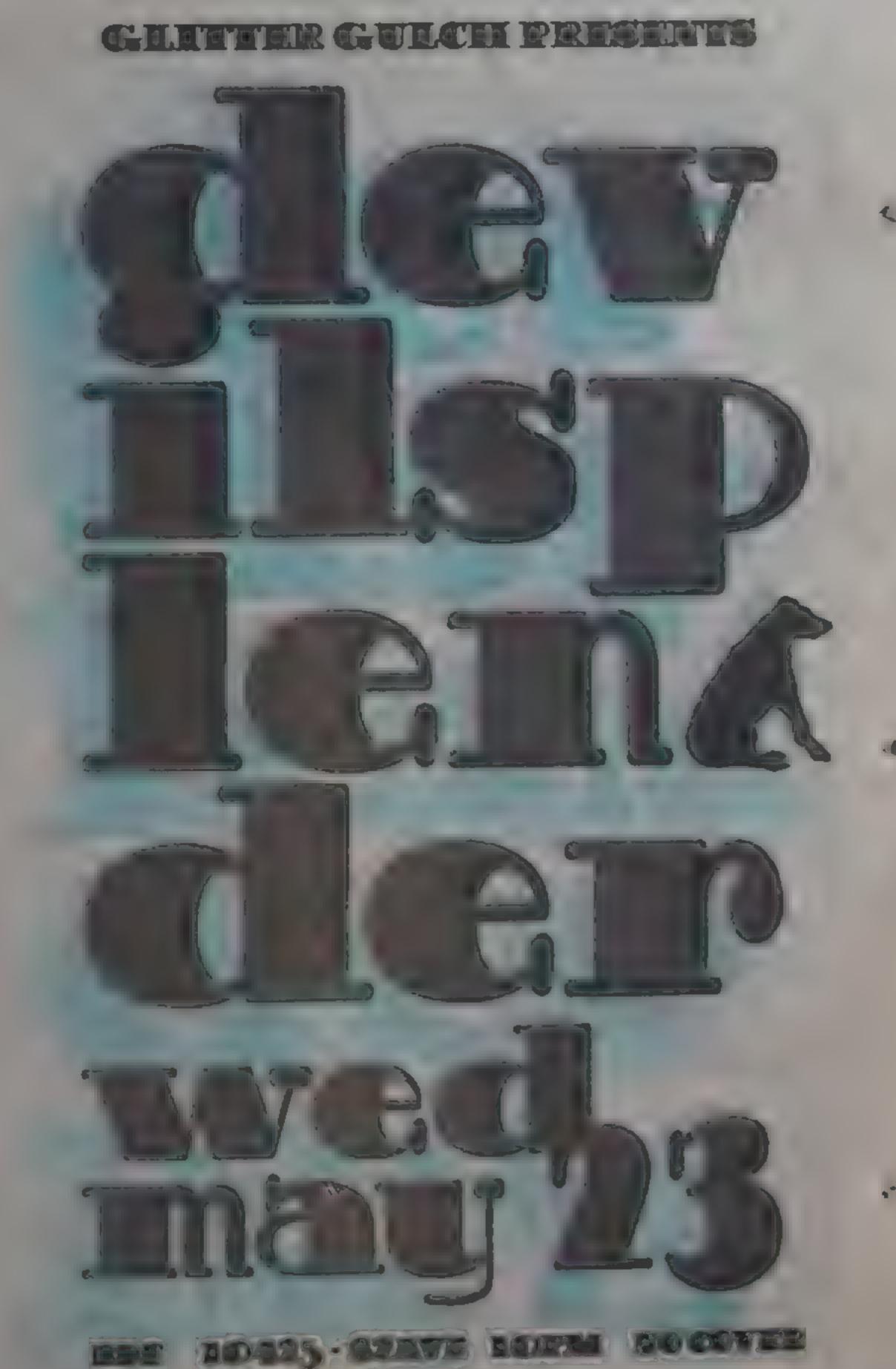
Great white hope's debut
He verbally stomps yer face
While he steals yer booze

FIGHT AGAINST DARKNESS

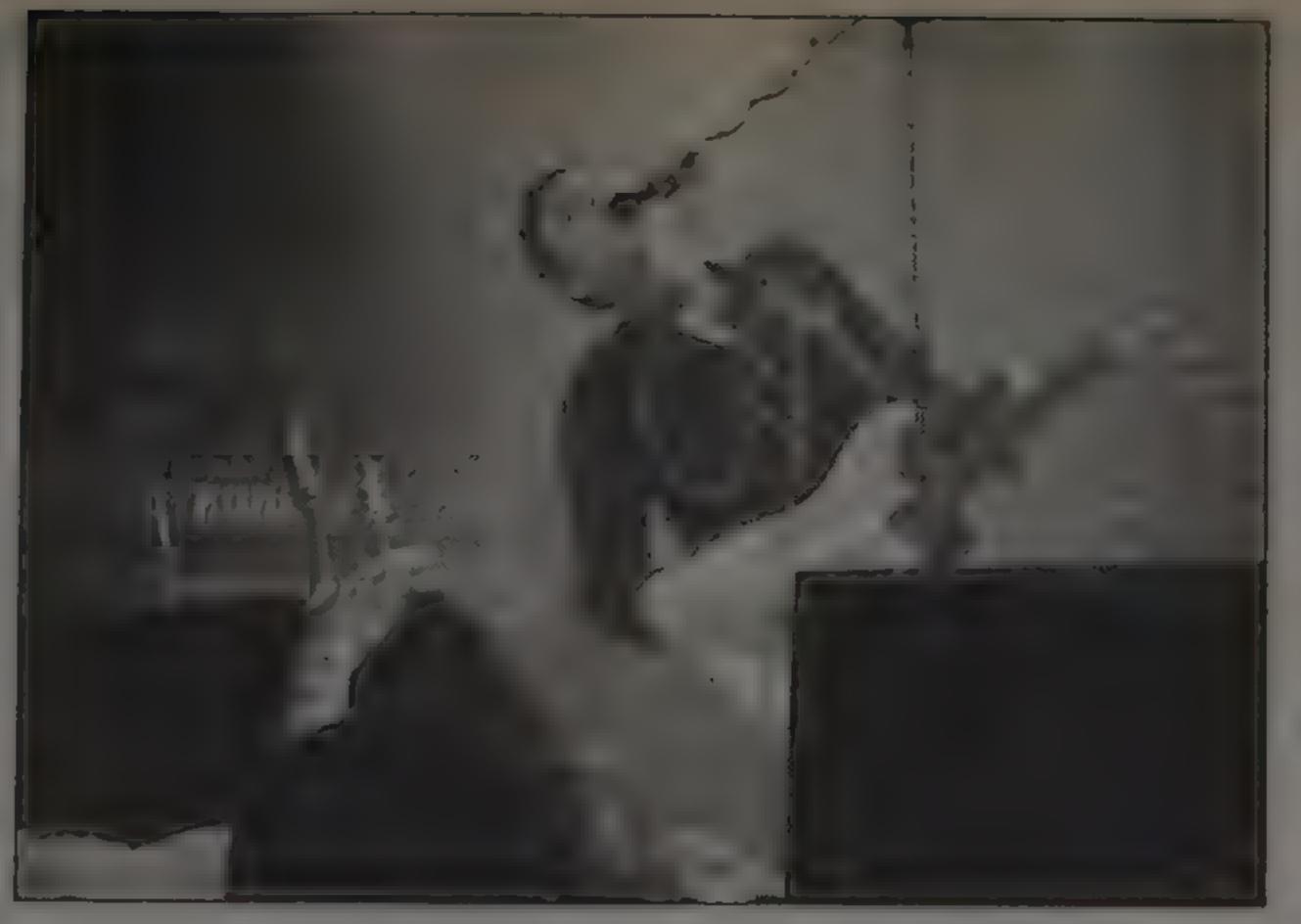
Tickled ivories
Ticklin' my fancy with their
Sweet and gentle tunes

DAPPLED CITIES GRANDUANCE DANGERHIND

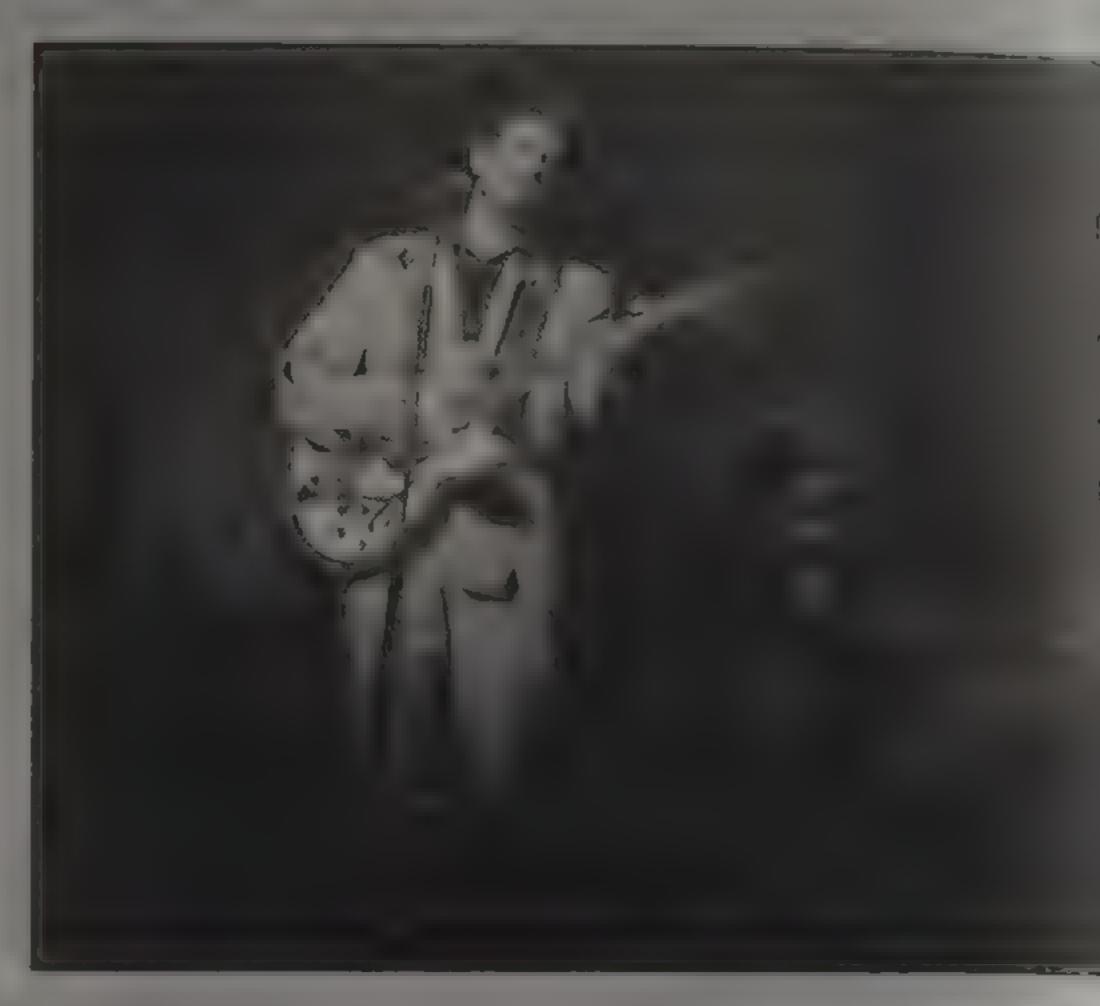
Indie-rockin' Aussies
Throw caution to the wind and
Make weirdness their friend







REVUE / TUE, MAY 15 / CHRIS ISAAK / JUBILEE Sometimes you go to a show expecting one thing and end up getting something completely different. Chris Isaak has something of a reputation as a crooner, but when the lights went down on him and his band at the Jubilee, what tuned up was not some throwback to the days of old, but a seriously ass-kicking rock 'n' roll band. These guys make up the sort of band that has been playing together for 20 years and it shows. Guitarist Hershel Yatovitz tore up the stage with more than one rippin' solo throughout the set, while the rhythm section kept things steady and solid throughout, even when Isaak started calling out for unrehearsed numbers. If there was a downpoint, it was when the band sat down for an acoustic set that went on a little too long in the middle of the show, but Isaak more than made up for that with his constant jokes. When one women shouted out a request, Isaak responded with, "What, do you think this is like a bar where you just shout things out? I'm big time, lady. Maybe you didn't see the sequins." --- EDEN MUNRO / eden@vueweekly.com





ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19)

The Only Three Questions That Count is the title of a book by Ken Fisher. I'm stealing it to use as the theme of your horoscope. So your next assignment, should you choose to accept it, is to craft three essential questions that will guide your journey between now and the end of 2007. These queries should excite your natural curiosity about the life issues that matter most to you. They should be carefully and precisely formulated. And they should motivate you to keep your mind wide open and hungry as you hunt for more insight into your most bafflingly interesting mysteries

TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20)

It's about time you got the chance to be knocked on your ass by a flood of positive surprises and good feelings. I hope you're trusting enough to go with the tidal flow, elen if it does temporarily render you a c.t :: 3577. Naturally you'd like to know if trugiddy surrender will land you in trouto a lo there any chance that you'll have to strouge some karmic adjustment at a later date because of the fun you're having now? Here's my prediction: absolutely t. If anything, your enthusiastic cooperation with the free-form dazzle will shield , ... 'om any negative repercussions

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20)

For years I made my home in a Northern fornian city called San Rafael. Near the end of my time there, I discovered

that the Miwok Indians who lived in the area for hundreds of years before the white men stole it had a different name for it: Nanaguani. I was embarrassed that it had taken me so long to know such a fundamental fact about my own neighbourhood. Make this the starting point for your assignment this week, Gemini, which is to learn more about the origins of the people and places and things that are most important to you.

CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22)

Reality is not all it's cracked up to be. Just because millions of people suffer from the same hallucinations doesn't mean those hallucinations are objectively true. I share Salvador Dali's perspective: "One day it will have to be officially admitted that what we have christened reality is an even greater illusion than the world of dreams." For these reasons and many more, I don't automatically dismiss people who live in their own fantasy worlds. Their dreamy concoctions may be no more deluded than those of normal people, and might be far more fun and amusing. Everything I just said is a preface for the main point of this horoscope, Cancerian, which is to give you temporary license to escape into the most beautiful mirage you can conjure up. Love your fantastic visions. Let your imagination run far, far away with you.

LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22)

The members of the Superbroke Brass and Tin and Strings Electric Marching Band Ensemble wrote to me at my MySpace page. "We're here to fight the Evil Anti-Groove," they said, "to liberate the SuperFlow of the Universe, and to loosen the Sphincter of the Collective

Unconscious. I hope you'll march with us some day." I bring this to your attention, Leo, because your mission in the coming weeks should be much the same as theirs. Your personal success and satisfaction will be directly tied to how skilled you are at enhancing the well-being of your group, tribe or community.

VIRGO (AUG 23 - SEP 22)

"Welcome to the never-ending brainstorm session," reads an advertisement for Barclays Bank, one of the most successful financial institutions in the world. It's an approach that has some similarities to the ethic that prevails at Toyota, the company that makes the world's best-selling car. Its core principle is kaizen, a Japanese word meaning "continuous improvement," though it can also be translated as "to take apart and put back together in a better way." A blend of these attitudes is what I recommend to you during the coming weeks, Virgo: kaizen meets the neverending brainstorm.

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)

"There can be no transformation of darkness into light and of apathy into movement without emotion," wrote psychologist Carl Jung. That should be your motto in the coming week, Libra. Clear thinking and impeccable logic will not be sufficient to guide you to your next great adventure. You need the driving force of succulent emotion rising up in your solar plexus, the lush power of raw sensitivity piercing your heart. Feel as deep as you dare.

SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)

Last year, the top hedge fund managers in the US earned an average of \$363 million

a year. I haven't been able to determine what percentage of those plutocrats are Scorpios. But whatever the number is, I predict it'll rise during the remaining months of 2007. The members of your tribe—not just in the upper crust, but those of all crusts—are poised for the greatest financial upgrade in years. And one of the most favourable periods for expansion is dead ahead.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 - DEC 21)

This week may feel like a far-off trumpet playing mournfully at dawn as you awaken from a dream about buying pomegranates in a seedy but oddly appealing open-air market in Morocco. It could also resemble the sensation of talking on the phone long-distance to a person you both love and hate as rain falls on a metal roof and you gaze at a lunar eclipse that's breaking through a round hole in the cloud cover. In other words, Sagittarius, it'll be a time that's rich in hard-to-classify emotions. I expect you'll have experiences that will both spook you and energize you, both mesmerize you and liberate you.

CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)

I wish I could get a newly discovered species of beetle or an underground lake of ice on Mars named after you. I wish I could buy you a temple in Bali, and arrange for you to have your fortune told by the blind prophetess of Rio de Janeiro. And I wish I could dress you in 200-year-old velvet robes and silk scarves once worn by Turkish royalty. You richly deserve honours and blessings like these, Capricorn. It's that time in your astrological cycle when life is supposed to overflow with rewards for the good work you've been doing for a long

time. I urge you to be vividly confident that you do indeed deserve these rewards, and radiate that faith in all directions

REVUE / SAT MAY 12 / JOEL PLASKI II EMERGENCY / STARLITE ROOM FRIGHT

dangers of fatty foods, smoking and drinking

Doctors should be warning the public that

attending a Joel Plaskett show will take year

off your life. Between the rowdy fans who

somehow found room to dance on a suffocal

ingly packed floor and Plaskett's insistence or

playing a three-hour set with two encores, it

no small wonder that I made it out alive. Then

again, if you offered me another chance to ou

to this show, it would be sorely tempting n

matter what the consequences, kind of like

those double bacon cheeseburgers with

donuts for a bun. I have no idea how Plasken

and his band can sustain that kind of effort of

a nationwide tour, playing almost every sond

out of their catalogue, with Plaskett still lonk

ing pretty dapper in a sweater vest to boot -

JOEL KELLY / joel@vueweekly.com

AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18)

The Innu have a word that describes an old friend who's acting oddly. In recent year, as global warming has gained momentum they've applied this term, uggianaqtuq, to their environment. What are the symp toms? The sea ice forms later each winter and thaws earlier in the spring. Robins 111 biting flies have arrived in places when they've never been before. The sky whiter and hazier, even on clear days. I supect you'll experience a version uggianaqtuq in the coming days, Aquariu Something familiar will behave in a war you've never experienced. That could good or bad or a mixture of both. Whin way it goes may depend in part on whether you refrain from jumping to conclusions may also hinge on your willingness to red fine the meaning of "good" and "bad

PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20)

Your word of the week is "incubation" refers to the act of a parent animal sitting on eggs to keep them warm as the fetur es inside mature to the point of hatching In a more metaphorical sense, "incubation" means the process of protecting and nurturing an idea or possibility as i ripens. Dream workers also tout "dream incubation," in which you describe a prob lem that you'd like to have addressed by your dreams, and hold it in your mind as you fall asleep. If you do this with a strong intention, your dreams will eventually help you solve the problem. I invite you to apply this meditation on incubation to the work you have ahead of you, Pisces. V

AN YOUR FREE LISTINGS TO 425 2089 I E-MAIL GLENYS AT LISTINGS OVUEWEEKLY.COM EAGLINE IS FRIDAY AT 3 PM

CLUBS/LECTURES

MADIAN HARD OF HEARING CONFERENCE 1-800-Taces, www.chha.ca/conference/2007 . Featuring exer humorist and author Michael Kerr . May 24-27

AMADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE 11205-101 (479-1999) . Basketball; Mon (5-7pm) . Healing cle, Mon (6-8pm) . Boxing, Mon/Thu (7-9pm), Tue (5m) . Volleyball, Tue (6-8pm) . Sewing Circle; Tue (6mil . Bendwork Class; Wed (6-8pm) . C.N.F.C. Powww. Wed (6-9pm) . Hip-Hop Class; every Thu (5-7pm) . an Class: Thu (6-8pm) . Elders and Residency; Fri (all vi . Safe Using and Harm Reduction; last Fri each onth (11am-12pm) . Tobacco Reduction; every Fri (1m) . Drop-in Night Fri (6-8pm)

ATHERIME BURGESS ART TALK Stanley A Milner carre (downstairs) 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq . oture by sculptor Catherine Burgess, presented by the perta Society of Artists and the Edmonton Public Library Thu, May 19 (7pm) * Free

DAN ERSATTON CAFE Unity of Edmonton Church, 212-106 Ave . Meeting presented by Rev. Yvonne name . Every Tue (1-3pm)

COSOLAR HOME TOUR 2007 WWW ecosolar ca . Tour of e homes in the comportion area where people have installed ar panels, solar hot water heaters, geothermal heaters, or It energy efficient homes . Sat, June 9 (12-4pm)

MR TRADE WORKS! TEN YEARS OF CHANGING MES TransAlta Arts Bams, 10330-84 Ave (434-9236) + inual Fair Irade Fair and Film Festival to celebrate Ginal Fair Trade Weeks presented by Edmonton Small as Association, Featuring the films: Black Gold 12:30 pm; iouilapolis (City Of Factories) 2:30 pm; Workingman's эті 4pm = Sat, May 19 (noon-брт) = Free (fair); \$5-\$8 aggested donation for films, free for low-income)

LUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB Roost, 10345-104 St (387-(43) . Crossdressers, transpexuals, friends and supporta most the 2nd Thu each month (8pm). in://groups.yal-oo.com/group/edmonton_illusions/

TAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB Allendale School, 15-106 St (469-9776) www.imagesab.ca * Meets ery 2nd and 4th Thu (Bpm) each month featuring pretations, speakers, workshops, outlings, monthly and ar-end compatitions. Photographers of all levels are elcome . \$40 (individual membership)/\$50 (family)/\$20 ull-time student); visitors may attend three times before

MEDITATION . Garden Seaton Ling Tibeton Suidhist Meditation Society, 11403-101 St. www.gadensamtenling.org (479-0014) by Kushok Lobsang hamchon; beginner Tue (7pm); intermediate Wed (7pm); dyanced Sun (11am-1pm) . Brehme Kemaris World iriosal Organization, 208-10132-105 St. (425-1050) www.bkwsu.org. Raja Yoga Meditation

MEMORIAL SOCIETY OF EDIMONTON Edmonton Room Stanley Milner Library, 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq (944-0196) Annual general meeting * Sun, May 2 (2pm)

A NET ZERG EMERGY HOME IN EDMONTON Telus Marid of Science, 11211-142 St . Presentation by Gordon Howell * Mon. June 4 (6:30-9pm) * Free

PARENT TALK (481-1292) Boys and Girls Clubs of dmonton offers support groups and workshops for parents at various city locations

PRACTICAL SPIRITUALITY AND HEALING:

RESTORING OUR LIVES Edmonton Room, Lower Level tenley A. Milner Library, Churchill Sq . Free lecture by irmy Luedeman . Sat, May 26 (1:30pm)

IT ALBERT CHAFTER SENIORS UNITED St Albert en on, Tache St . Meeting, St Albert Senior Survey outomes . May 28 (1.30-3pm)

ESTEEM SUPPORT GROUP (495-5930) . For women ino are experiencing chaos as a result of a life crisis and who laid isolated * Group meets each week

THASTMASTERS CLUBS . City Lights Toestmesters owntown (426-5682) Set your own pace to become a imfortable and confident public speaker, meetings every ue (noon) . Chamber Toestmesters Club: Chamber of Emmurce, 600, 9990 Jasper Ave (459-5206); Visit us and are how to deliver effective presentations, conduct busiess meetings, and develop as a communicator and a mider; every The (fipm) . "Al'erators: Beverly United auch meeting room, 11919-40 St (476-6963) Improve esking skills, leadership skills, time management, orgaartional, listening and social skills; every Wed (7-9pm) . resource Best Western Cedar Park Inn., 5116 Gateway fulleyard (457-0608) www.pursuers.org: weekly meetings to improve your communication and leadership skills in a continu environment every Wed (7-9pm) . Charticlear Austrasters: Kingsway Rm, Millard Health Building, 131 Micrort Rd (498-4608/474-1138) Thu meetings (7-8:30 am) bul confident speaking and build leadership skills

TOURETTE SYNDROME Academy of King Edward, m25-101 St. Nurth door (1-866-824-9764) * Support mentings for TS adults and parents of TS kids . First Wand each month (7pm)

WALK A MILE THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE IN NADA Stanley A. Miliner Library Theatre, 7 Sir Winston Furthill Sq . A Series of 4 Episodes produced by the NEB anada • May 23, May 30 (7pm) • Free

MASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION - (486-3587) at guided hike, approx. 9.5km at Saunders Lake; May 19am); meet by the Bonnie Doon Recycle, 85 St, 85 Ave

MONEN IN BLACK in front of the Old Strathcona "Filmers' Market . Sitent vigil every 1st and 3rd Sat ea munth, stand in silence for a world without violence (10-

QUEER LISTINGS

AFRICA SUNNYBROOK-RED DEER Red Deer (403-347-£073) . Affirm welcome LGBTO people and their friends. amily, and alhes, meet at Sunnybrook United Church every 2nd Tue ea month (7pm)

AGAPE Faculty of Education, U of A Campus . Sex, sexual, gender differences in education and culture focus group • Contact Dr. Andre Grace (andre grace@ualberta.ca) for info

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bwedmonton - Social group for bi-curious and bisexual women - 2nd Thu ea

month (7:30pm) BOOTS AND SADDLES 10242-106 St (423-5014) . Large

tavern with pool tables, restaurant, shows. Members only

BUDDYS NITE CLUB 117258 Jasper Ave (488-7736) . Open nightly 9pm-3am, Fri 8pm-3pm • Sun: Rotating drag shows with Mz Bianca and Mz Vanity Fair in The Stardust Lounge and GoDiva and Donnatella NE1 in The GoDonna Show, DJ WestCoastBabyDaddy . Mon: Amateur strip contest with Mia Fellow, midnight, DJ

WestCoastBabyDaddy . Tue: Free pool and tourney, DJ Arrowchaser . Wed: Hump day with DJ Sexxxy Sean . Thu: Wet underwear contest with Mia Fellow, midnight. OJ WestCoastBabyDaddy . Fri: We made 'em famous! DJ Eddy Toonflash, come early to avoid lineup, no coverbefore 10pm . Sat: Undie night for men only, free pool and tourney, DJ Arrowchaser

DOWN UNDER MENS BATH HOUSE 12224 Jasper Ave (482-7960) • Open 24/7 • www.gayedmonton.com

EDMONTON MUSIC NIGHT . A mature social group, couples and singles welcome . E-mail edmontonmusicnight@hotmail.com for more info

EDMONTON PRIME TIMERS (EPT) Unitarian Church of Edmonton, 10804-119 St . A group of older gay men and their admirers who have common social interests meet every 2nd Sunday of most months at 2:30pm for a social period, a short meeting and a guest speaker, discussion panel or a potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other social activities throughout the month, email edmontonpt@yahoo.ca, www.primetimersww.org/edmon-

EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSUCIATION www.edmontonrba.org . Monthly after business mixer: Network and share contacts in the GLBT business community . Second Wed ea month

HIV NETWORK OF EDMONTON SOCIETY 300, 11456 Jasper Ave (488-5742) or contact?@hivedmonton.com . Programs and support services for people affected and infected by HIV/AIDS and related illnesses. Counselling, referrals, support groups, harm reduction, education, advocacy and public awareness campaigns

INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus . Campus-based organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified and queer (LG8TQ) faculty, graduate student, academic, straight allies and support staff . 3rd Thu ea month (fall/winter terms): Speakers Series. Contact Kris (kwells@ualberta.ca)

LIVING POSITIVE 404, 10408-124 St, www.edmlivingpositive ca (1-877-975-9448/488-5768) • Providing confidential peer support to people living with HIV . Every Tue (7-9pm): Support group . Daily drop-in, peer counselling

MADELEINE SANAM FOUNDATION Faculté St. Jean, 8406 Marie-Anne Gaboury (91 St) Rm 3-18 (490-7332) • Program for HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and other African languages Every 3rd and 4th Sat (9am-5pm)
 Free (member)/\$10 (membership) • Pre-register

MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB

www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm . Recreational and competitive swimming with coaching, beginners encouraged to participate. Socializing after practices . Every Tue and Thu

PRINCE CONTRE OF FOMONTON 9540-111 Ave (488-3234) Open: Mon-Thu tom-10pm, Fra 3 10pm - Bears Movie Night: Bears Club: last Sun ea month (1-5pm, TV room) . Trans Education/Support Group: Support and education for transsexual, transgendered, intersexed, two-spirited and questioning individuals; 1st, 3rd, last Sun ea month (2-4pm) with Cody - Sunday Night Men's Discussion Group: Mens social and discussion group; every Sun (7pm); Rob Wells at robwells780@hotmail.com . Friends and Family Playgroup: Znd Sun ea month (2-4pm) with Noelle, friendsandfamilyplay group-owner@yahoogroups.ca . Monday Movie Night: Movie nights with themed movies and discussion afterwards: every Mon . TTIQ Alliance: Support meeting for transgender, transsexual, intersex and questioning 2nd Tue se month; ttiqualifance@shaw.ca, 718-1412 . GLBT Seniors Drop-In: Every Thu (2-4pm) with Jeff Bovee, 488-3234 . Sick and tired of being sick and tired? Cocaine Anonymous meeting; Thu 7-8pm, CA Hotline 425-2715 . HIV Outreach: Drop-in circle every other Thu (7pm) . Youth Understanding Youth: Youth support and social group; every Sat (7-9pm); yuy@shaw.ca; vyww.members.shaw.ca/yuy . Suit Up and Show Up-Big Book Study: Sat (12-2); suitupshowup@hotmail.com . NDP LGBT Caucus: last Sun ea month with Jay, 488-3234

PRISM BAR AND GRILL 10524-101 St, back entrance (990-0038) - Lesbian and gay bar/restaurant

THE ROOST 10345-104 St (426-3150) . Open Thu, Sun Born-3am; Fri Sat 8pm-4am; closed Mon, Tue, Wed . Thu: Thursdays are Gorgeous with Hostess Hootie McBoob, featuring Drag Kings and Queens, burlesque and amateur strip the last Thu ea. Month . Fri: All Request Dance Party every Friday, DJ Jazzy with rotating shows every week . Sat: Always like New Years Eve: with DJ Dan (retro) downstairs. and DJ Jazzy (new music) upstairs . Sun: Flashback Sundays: Featuring hostesses Miss Bianca and Vanity Fair, rotating guests. Free pool all night long, \$3 cover . Weekends: \$4 (members)/\$6 (non-member)/Sun \$2 cover

SINGLE LESBIANS 46 PLUS . A woman's social group, gathers once a month on Sat for conversation over tea and coffee . Information e-mail: singlewomen40plus@hotmail.com

STEAMWORKS 11745 Jasper Ave (451-5554) . Steam baths open daily (24hrs)

WOMONSPACE (780-482-1794) . A non-profit lesbian organization, organized activities held monthly including licenced non-smoking dances, coffee houses, family events, games nights, golf tournaments and more . www.gaycanada.com/womonspace, e-mail, womenspace@gmail.com

WOODYS 11723 Jasper Ave (488-6557) - Open Daily (noon) . Sat-Tue Karaoke with Tizzy and Patrick . Sat-Sun Pool Tournaments

SPECIAL EVENTS

ALBERTA BALLET'S HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR (428-6839 ext. 3/451-8000) . Stroll through three award-winning gardens and six stunningly-designed homes - June 23-24 - \$35 (single-day self-guided tour)/\$55 (single-day bus tour) at TicketMaster; fundraiser for Alberta Bhallet

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH Devonian Botanic Garden, www.asianheritagemonth.ca (987-3054) . Annual Chigiri-e show and demonstration using tern, imported Japanese paper; June 1-3 (10am-5pm) . Kurimoto Japanese Garden Spring Festival; June 3 (1-4pm)

CITY CHASE Start and finish at Edmonton City Hall, Chase Points throughout the city . Teams of two travel by foot or public transit collecting clues, solving puzzles, performing fun and crazy physical feats . May 26 . \$150/team, register at www.citychase.ca/schedule.asp?nav=schedule

DINOSAURS ALIVE! IMAX, TELUS World of Science, 11211-142 St (451-3344.) • A Gigantic Adventure, giant screen film, narrated by Michael Douglas • Mon-Wed 3pm; Thu 3, 7pm; Fri 3, 7, 9pm; Sat 11am, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9pm; Sun/holidays 1 fam, 1, 3, 5, 7pm

DOCTORS AND DERRIERES: POSING FOR A GLOBAL CAUSE II Red Strap Market, 10305-97St (445-8518) . Silent ert auction of nude portraits . May 24 (6:30-11pm); preview on May 21-24 - Proceeds to Change for Children's Community Health Project in El Salvador and international health projects run by IHIMS in Tanzania, Kenya, India

DUALORLETTY Kasbar on Whyte, 10444-82 Ave. downstairs . A night of poetry, performance, music, and video co-hosted by The Raving Poets and the curators of COR-TEX: a multidisciplinary event featuring 8 readers followed by the launch of Dishutopia, a collection of video shorts by Philip Jagger . Wed, May 23 . \$5 (door); all proceeds to fund CORTEX in Sept

FAIR TRADE FAIR AND FILM FESTIVAL TransAlta Arts Bams, 10330-84 Ave (434-9236) • All day Fair Trade fair Featuring films Black Gold at 12:30pm; Maguilapolis (City of Factories) at 2:30pm; Working Man's Death at 4pm . Sat, May 19 (noon) • \$5-\$8 (suggested donation for Films)/free (low-income) - www.edmontonsmallpress.org

HEART OF THE CITY FESTIVAL FUNDRAISER Tra Amici Café, 10850-95 St (238-1320/965-6129) . To support local musicians and visual artists, featuring three bands, and a silent auction . Thu, May 17 (7pm) . \$8 (adv)/\$10 (door)

RELAY FOR LIFE www.cancer.ab.ca/relay (455-7181) . The Canadian Cancer Society 12 hour, non-competitive team relay . May 25-26 (7pm-7am)

THE ROYAL BISON CRAFT AND ART FAIR Cosmopolitan Music Society Building, 8426 Gateway Blvd (433-4560) . "Indie" craft fair, tables of locally made cultural and practical produce . May 26-27 (10am-5pm) . \$2 (door)/kids free; www.fifteen.ca/theroyalbison

ST. ALBERT KINSMEN RAINMAKER HODEO AND **EXHIBITION** St. Albert Kinsmen Rainmaker Rodeo Fairgrounds, www.rainmaker.ab.ca . Rainmaker Midway. Rodeo and Chuckwagon events, the Monster Truck and Xtreme Freestyle Motorcross demonstrations, the ever-bristling Rainmaker Market, and the Showcase Stage of Rising Stars • May 25-27 • \$10 (grounds adult) • May 25. Sam Roberts Band, Bedouin Soundclash, Long Way Down, May 26: Paul Brandt, Julian Austin, The Grambo Brothers; fully licensed, no minors event; . \$45 (door each night)/\$34.95 (adv. each night) at TicketMaster

SALUD/HEALTH VIEWING Stanley A. Milner Library, Edmonton Room, lower level . Documentary, fundraiser in support of the Edmonton Raging Grannies and Not Just Tourists . May 18 (6:30-9pm) . \$10 (donation) funds to support the transportation costs of sending large equipment donations to needy countries

SOCIÉTÉ FRANCOPHONE DES ARTS VISUELS DE L'ALBERTA La Cite francophone, 8627-91 St (461-3427) Art show and concert where visuasi arts, literature. music, song and dance are brought together . May 18 (7:30pm) . \$15 (door)/\$12 (adv)

SUBWAY CORONATION TRIATHLON Peter Hemingway Fitness Centre, Coronation Park, 13808-111 Ave. www.admonton.ca/comationtriathlon . Sun, May 27 (7am-1pm)

TEENSOTHE TURN FESTIVAL Citadel Rice Theatre (425-1820) . Featuring Collective Creation on Teen Violence in Edmonton, SubUrbia, Into the Woods, Vinegar Tom, Cabaret/Variety Events, Students Club Shorts, Workshops and Theatre Career Fair and more . May 17-27 • see www.myspace.com/teensattheturn

TRADITIONAL POW WOW U of A Butterdome, 114 St, 87 Ave (477-6648) . Featuring hoop dancers, traditional crafts, Thundering Spirit Drummers . Sat, May 19 (1-9pm).

THE WEEKEND TO END BREAST CANCER King Edward Park small community hall, 8008-81 St . Multifamily, fundraising garage sale . May 25-27, Fri 2-8pm; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun noon-5pm

KARAOKE

BILLY BOB'S SPORTS BAR Continental Inn, Stony Plain Rd (484-7751) . Every Wed (8pm-12am); every Thu, Fri, Sat (9:30pm-1:30am) with Right Said Ed

BLIND PIB 32 St. Anne Street, St. Albert . Karaoke with Shelly every Wed/Fri

CASTLEDOWN'S P UB 16753-100 St . Every Tue (9pm-Taml: with Off-Key Entertainment

CROWN AND ANCHOR 15277 Castledowns Rd (472-7696) . Every Thu

BAS PUMP 10166-114 St (488-4841) . Every Tue-Wed (9.30pm): Gord's Best Live Singing Show

HOOUGANZ PUB 10704-124 St (452-1168) . Karaoka every friday with krista, Liquid Entertainment

NEWCASTLE PUB 6108-90 Ava (490-1999) . Every Thu

O'CONNOR'S IRISH PUB 9013-88 Ave (469-8165) . Name that Tune; every Thu (9pm)

ON THE ROCKS 11740 Jasper Ave (482-4767) . Karaoke Mondays: Every Mon (9pm); Hosted by Mr. Entertainment's Scott Parsons . Salsa and the City Thursdays: Latin music and Salsa lessons; every Thu (9pm)

ORLANDO'S 1 15163-121 St (457-1649) . Every Wed/Thu/Sun (9:30pm-2am): with TLC Entertainment

OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB 6401-104 St (988-5457) . Every Sat hosted by Jenny Joy; 9pm

PEPPERS Westmount Mall, 135 St, 113 Ave (451-8022) · Every Thu (9:30pm-1:30am): with Gord from Stonerock

ROSARIOS 11715-108 Ave (447-4727) . Longest running Karaoka bar; 7 days a week

ROSIE'S BAR AND GRILL . Downtown, 10604-101 St (423-3499); Every Mon-Sat (9pm); Sun (7pm); with Ruth . Highstreet, 10315-124 St (482-1600); daily (9:30pm) • Old Strathcona, 10475-80 Ave (439-7211); every Thu-Sat (9:30pm-1:30am) . 99 St. 63 Ave; every Thu-Sat (9pm-1am) with Off-Key Entertainment

SPORTSWORLD INLINE AND ROLLER SKATING DISCO 13710-104 St (472-6336) . Every Tue, Fri-Sat (7pm-midnight), Sat-Sun (1-5pm)

YESTERDAY'S 112-205 Carnegie Dr. St. Albert (459-0295) • Every Thu (9:39pm-2am): with Off-Key Entertainment

What about 'Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)'!?!



The sole regret that I harbour about my highschool graduation is that, at the time, I had no idea who Aimee Mann was. For those of you who don't know who she is, Ms Mann is a singer-songwriter of the finest kind, an Oscar-nominee for her song "Save Me" from the film Magnolia. Ring bells? Okay. Remember that band 'Til Tuesday from the '80s who had that song "Voices Carry" with the video of the blonde chick with the rat-tail who stands up and causes a ruckus in the middle of Carnegie Hall to get back at the greasy lover who shattered her dreams of being a rockstar with his controlling ways? "He said shut up!" Remember? Well that's her, but now she's synth-free and has better hair.

Anyway, I wish I had been acquainted with her music, because when it came time for my graduating class to choose a theme song, I had bupkis. Being the keener/suck-up/only-kid-who-gave-ashit in the class, if I had something to propose, I would have shoved it down everyone's throats until I got my way.

But as a result, the theme of my 2002 grad class was "World's Greatest," a nauseating piece of crap by an alleged pedophile. The only other option on the table was "Simply the Best" by Tina Turner. Suffice it to say, my grad class was filled with morons and hockey players and not enough homos to garner enough votes for Tina.

The song I would have chosen had I heard it in time would have been Mann's "Ghost World," basically a song about the movie of the same name that tells us in life we actually have only a few alternatives to choose from, the world's not ours to conquer but to live in quietly and at the very most, contently. "I'm bailing this town / Or tearing it down / Or probably more like hanging around."

This past weekend my kid brother graduated, and it reminded me of how utterly empty the promises of highschool graduation truly are. It's all about choices, the start of real life in the real world. In my year, I was valedictorian and I had to make a speech that I really didn't want to. I remember giving a first draft to my English teacher-mentor only to have her stop one paragraph in to tell me that what I had written wasn't very appropriate. It was too mean, I think she

Well, duh. I didn't like anybody and I thought I was better than them so what do you expect? I wrote something else in about 30 minutes, and spat it out the next night. It was a little less mean but to this day, my mom still brings it up every time we have to attend a new grad ceremony. And there have been several. Each time I heard the same thing from my mom.

"That speech was just so inspirational. It was really well done. He/she really understood what this day was really about" she'd say, after wiping a couple tears from her eyes with a wadded up kleenex. "How come yours

wasn't like that?"

BECAUSE, MOTHER, I was talking about real life. Not the myriad roads open to me on the path of life or the never-ending cascade of options that will come pouring down on me from the waterfall of life or the number of free rides I'd get on the never-ending rollercoaster that is life. I told people to be themselves, to break free from what they were and become who they are. Basically shove it and stop fucking around, except that I used enough big words that the message was obscured and sentimentally misinterpreted. The only comment I heard from my fellow graduates after the speech was how I positioned the podium's two microphones in such a way that it looked like the little felt bulbs were my nipples. "Fuck, Luke, that was hilarious!"

Real life for me, after graduation, was liberating. I was gay but not gay yet, liv-

In my mind, I'd get through my speech and at the very end blurt out, "Oh yeah. And I'm gay. Fuck you and have a good night! Try the chicken!"

ing in a small-town, just turned legal age. I looked forward to being able to go out to the gay bar without having to lie to everyone on Monday morning about what I did over the weekend, so much more than the rest of my class who only had work or university to look forward. I

Looking back, I do remember a certain scenario that, to this day, I wish I'd had the balls to carry out. My graduation was actually in early May, so after all of the festivities we still had a month and a half of class to get through. I was frustrated, to say the least, with the situation and thought that I'd use my valediction to come out. In my mind, I'd get through my speech and at the very end blurt out, "Oh yeah. And I'm gay. Fuck you and have a good night! Try the chicken!" After the pin drop, I'd toss up my mortarboard (that's what those caps with tassles are called), rip off my gown and walk out of the Shaw Conference Centre, out onto Jasper Avenue, find a gay bar and spend the rest of the night getting drunk on rye and Cokes in my rented tux.

If there's anyone out there on the verge of graduating high school, let me tell you that it's all just bullshit. Fine, be inspired and sentimental and feel some love towards fellow classmates. For one night put away all of the hurt and pain and embarrassment and awkwardness and feel empowered like you have the world in front of you on a plate or whatever your dumbass speakers tell you is out there waiting. Just remember that Monday's another school day and nothing's really going to change unless you do. That's real life. V

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SACE - Public Education Program: Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (www.sace.ab.ca) provides crisis intervention, information, counseling and public education services. If required we can customize a presentation to meet your needs. T: (780) 423-4102 / F: 421-8734 / E: info@sace.ab.ca; www.sace.ab.ca / 24 Hour Crisis Line: 423-4121

Human Rights Facilitator Training / www.jhcentre.org. free 8 week training program presented by: The John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights and the Human Rights City Project. Info: Carrie, 453-2638 / E: carrie@jhcentre.org

ARTIST TO ARTIST

FREE-FREE-FREE-FREE FREE+FREE+FREE+FREE ARTIST/NON PROFIT CLASSIFIEDS

Need a volunteer? Forming an acting troupe? Want someone to jam with? Place up to 20 words FREE. Ads more than 20 words are subject to regular price or cruel editing. Free ads must be submitted in writing, in person, fax or e-mail. Free ads will run for four weeks, if you want to renew or cancel please phone Glenys at 426-1996/fax 426-2889/e-m glenys@vueweekly.com or drop it off at 10303-108 St. Deadline is noon the Tuesday before publication. Placement will depend upon available space.

"Poet Wanted" Edmonton seeks its next Poet Laureate. Interested, published Edmonton poets should contact the Edmonton Arts Council at 424-2787 for application info. Deedline: May 18.

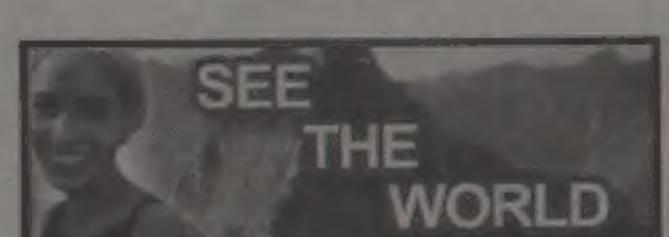
http://www.edmontonarts.ab.ca/PoetLaureate.pdf

Catherine Burgess Art Talks free artist lecture presented by the Alberta Society of Artists, the Edmonton Public Library. Thu, Way 19, 7pm at the Stanley A. Milner Theatre (downstairs) 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq.

Edmonton Fashion Week expanding. Looking for stage manager, and media coordinator as well as other positions. Ph Sandra at 994-8659.

Looking for contestants. Emerging Designer and Stylist Competition in regards to Edmonton Fashion Week ph 994-8659 for more info.

Edmonton Fashion Week looking for jewellery hat and clothing designers. No fees but must meet criteria to do runway show. Ph 994-8659.



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Musicians and artists wanted for the Highlands 477-2422, julianna@bandita.ca, www.shopinhighlands comfor more info.

Looking for women for punk-influenced drag project.

Shopping District; Sat, June 2, 10am-4pm. Julianna at

Whyte Avenue Art Walk, July 13-15; Register \$45 (incl. vendor permit for three days, 5-10 ft exhibition space, media coverage, feature in the Art Walk booklet, other exhibition opportunities), Register at The Paint Spot, 10516 Whyte Ave or 12418 102 Ave.

Call to Enter: Arts Hab Studio Gallery features guest artists. Incl: Proposal; 10 slides/photos, CV; Artist statement. For info Ph Tim 423-2966.

MUSICIANS

Guitar and bass looking to start an original blues band, infl. SRV, Hendrix etc. Derek @ 278-9290.

Experienced hard rock band seeking pro level bass player with vocal skills. No beginners/hacks/egomaniacs. Band experience mandatory. Henri@(780)634-2156.

FTGU is looking for a new drummer (pro level) for album/tour. Vocals a plus. Experience a must. ftgusinger@hotmail.com

Looking for saxaphone and keyboardist for old rock style music. Contact Kenny rock 'n' roll 453-3663.

Cole Porter, Gerhswin, etc: Male singer meeds professional piano accompanist to rehearse/per-form. 240-0508 or allaboutalfie@yahoo.com

Singer/songwriter in his 50's looking for other singer/songwriters to collaborate on new material. llitke@epl.ca

Singersongwriter/musician, 50s, seeks fit, adventurous female musician/vocalist for duo gigs, internat, travel, and sharing lifes joys. Must be n/s. Ross 707-3979.

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers Needed for 2007 International Children's Festival, May 29-June 2. For info call (780) 459-1694, www.childfest.com. Register by May 21st. Must be at least 12 years old.

The Alberta Diabetes Foundation Secure the Cure Family Fun Run and Walk, Set, June 9 at Broadmoor Park, Sherwood Park. Register/volunteer, ph Darlene 447-1451, info at www.afdr.ab.ca.

"Let's Go!" is a program which helps newcomers learn about their community and Canadian culture. Volunteers needed for the summer months only. Lots of Fun! Contact Judy 424-3545 ext. 249.

Calling all campers, outdoor enthusiasts, walkers/runners, to participate in the Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life on May 25-26, 7pm-7am. Call (780) 455-7181 or www.cancer.ca/relay for info.

Everything from administration to carpentry to tour guiding volunteer positions are open NOW for The Works Art and Design Festival. For 13 MIND ALTERING days, from June 22-July 4. Call Misha Gostick at 426-2122, ext. 230, e-mail volunteer@theworks.ca.ca, www.theworks.ab.ca for more info.

A Teste of Edmonton Festival needs voluntoors. July 19-28. Call Lisa at 423-2822 ext. 22, email: suzuanne@eventsedmonton.ca.

Volunteer at Edmonton Chants, Edmonton's francophone music festival, June 22-24 at Maurice-Lavallee School's park. Contact Lucille Taillieu, 469-4401, email info@edmontonchante.ab.ca.

Call 468-7070 to donate today-and help YESS fulfill their mission of giving youth at risk a chance!

Secure the Cure 2007 Alberta Diabetes Foundation's Family Fun Run and Walk, Sat, June 9 at Broadmoor Lake Park, Sherwood Park, Register at 447-1451; events@afdr.ab.ca; or visit www.afdr.ab.ca.

Want to stop smoking? Nicotine Anonymous meet-ings: 7pm, every Wed, Ebenezer United Church Hall, 106 Ave, 163 St. Contact Gwynn 443-3020.

Be a Big Brother or Big Sister! Be a Mentor! Call Big Brother Big Sister today, 424-8181. Do you remember someone who believed in you when you were a child? Be that person in a child's life today. All it takes is one hour a week.

Seeking volunteers to research, organize and conduct speaking engagements and man exhibits to promote volunteer opportunities at Meels on Wheels. 429-2020, www.mealsonwheelsedmonton.org for info. na May 10 07

Volunteer watercolour instructor needed for Strathcona Place Senior Centre, For more info call Rita Mittelsteadt, 433-5807.

Volunteer yogs Instructor needed for Strathcona Place Senior Citizen Centre. For info phone Rita Mittelsteadt, 433-5807.

Volunteer pottery instructor needed for Strathcona Place Senior Citizen Centre. For info phone Rita Mittelsteadt, 433-5807.

Initiative Ambassadeurs pour la Paix is looking for francophone volunteers. Come learn how to present interactive workshops on antiracism/cultural diversity. Karina at (780) 425-4644 ext 9 or kczyzewski@naam.org

Media help wanted for a Nonprofit Boot Camp.
Call 39-0521 or kindnessinc@myway.com

Volunteer teachers needed to teach English as a second language to newcomers to Canada. Orientation and training provided. Meet people from all around the world. Jason: jmarkowsky@cci-lex.ca or 944-0792.

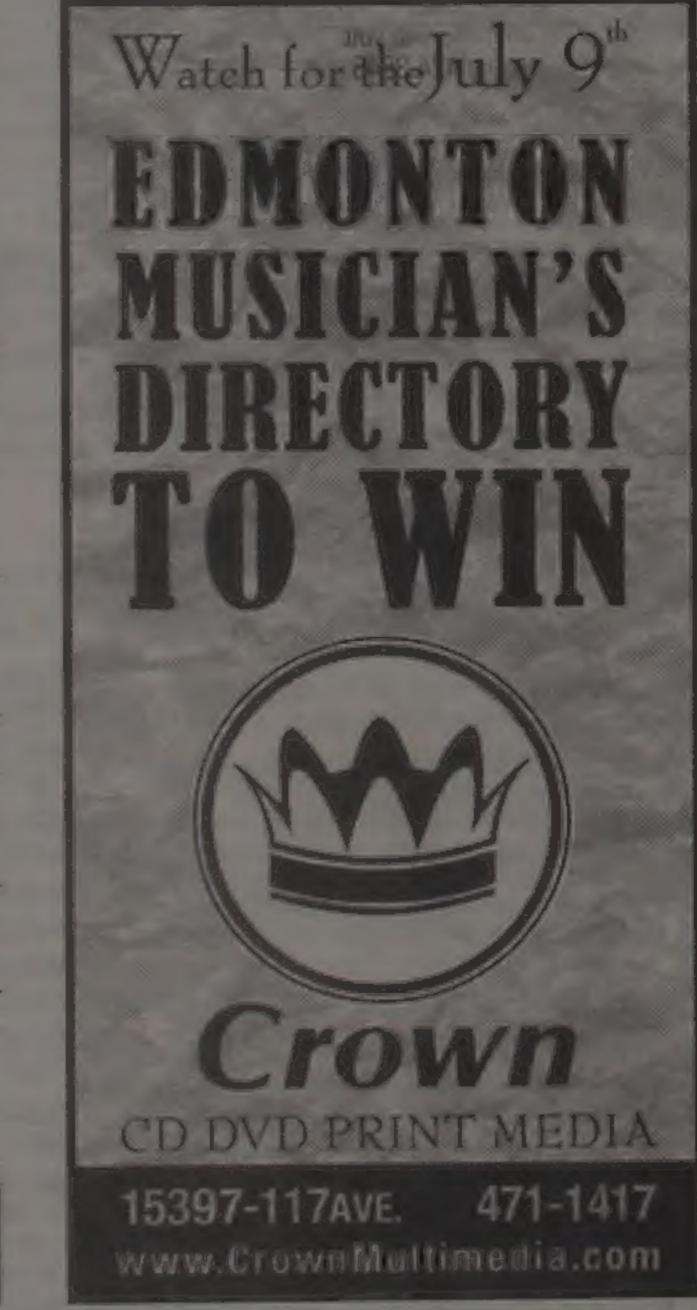
Have you ever thought of volunteering with your pet? Pet therapy is a great way to help those in our com-munity. Call Deanna at 413-4682.

Become a distress line volunteer. The Support Network, 732-6648. www.thesupportnetwork.com

Urban Ferming Project-Immigrant Seniors / SAGE are looking for garden spaces in many areas of the City. If you have land that you would consider for this project please contact us. Maureen Elhatton E: melhatton@MySage.ca, T: 423 5510 ext 340.

CANADIAN LIVER FOUNDATION is looking for enthusiastic volunteers for presentations and special events. Call Carmen at 444-1547.

Volunteers needed to take new immigrants on a short bus trip to a local grocery store to assist with a first time shopping. Momings, weekdays. Approx. 2-4 hrs. "On Call" position, Call Judy 424-3545, ext. 249,



We believe that all children have a right to grow in families and schools, and that all adults deserve to have real jobs, homes and friends. Ph 454-0701 and help to open the gates to community living in your area.

HipHope Youth Group: looking for creative leaders who want to learn more about liver health. Computer designers, health promoters, public speakers are welcome, we will provide mentoring. Ph Melissa 444-1547

Old Strathcone Youth Society: Looking for volunteers aged 21+ interested in working with high-risk youth, drop-in setting. Ph Naomi 496-5947, e-m: osyc@telus.net

Montors for Children/Youth: Act as a positive role model to children/youth in group care. Evanings or weekends. 2-3 hrs./wk. Various Edmonton locations Lily @ 432-1137.

Volunteers, enjoy working in our dining room at Strathcone Place Senior Centre, for more info phone Terrie Shaw at 433-5807.

Tired of Smoking? Come join us at Nicotine Anonymous, 7pm, Wednesdays at Ebenezer United Church, 163 St, 106 Ave, call Gwynn 443-3020. 7:30pm, Sundays at Henwood Treatment Centre. 18750-18 St, call Ryan 990-8917 or Jo 479-5969

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If the glove don't fit, you gotta, um, try a different glove

ALT. SEX. COLUMN ANDREA NEMERSON altsex@altsexcolumn.com

DEAR ANDREA

My boyfriend isn't circumcised and we can't get a condom to stay on, but not for lack of trying. We went through a whole box and even consulted internet diagrams with no success. They just wouldn't no/stay on. So we both got tested and I went on the pill. While I was there my doctor lectured me on why I should use condoms and I explained my situation. He said any condom should fit on any penis at anytime. Are we stupid? Is there a trick?

INE, MISTI

DEAR MIS

Does "find a new doctor" count as a mick? Anyone who's ever been a child can remember how it felt to be lectured without being listened to, and how one either

tuned out ("wah wah wah" went the grown-ups in the Peanuts specials) or made sure to do whatever was exactly opposite the ordered behaviour. Most uncir'd men who have problems with condoms either can't get the thing on to begin with or complain of getting bits of themselves caught in a fold of the rubber and going thwap like a window shade in a Warner Brothers cartoon. I'm not even sure how exactly a condom is supposed to fall off of something as essentially beflanged as an uncut penis, unless ... unless ... it's just too big all 'round.

You've obviously tried long and hard, as it were, and I hate not to give you credit for your efforts, but if all the condoms came from the same box it doesn't count. He needs to order a sampler and start trying things on. We women have to do that every time just to buy a stupid t-shirt, and the guys have it easy with their "small, medium and large." Think of it as his turn having to mess with sizes and styles. Start

with something labelled "snugger fit," which on the condom sites is always carefully couched as a matter of preference and not brute biological necessity, so it shouldn't be too dispiriting.

Then again, counterintuitive but not out of the question: they're not too big, they're too tight, like a pair of ill-fitting pantyhose which can't quite make it past your hips to snug in at your waist, so they keep rolling down and you have to spend the entire day semi surreptitiously yanking them back up. Not that such a thing would ever happen to me or, I hope, you. LOVE, ANDREA

DEAR ANDREA

I'm married to the woman of my dreams and the love of my life. My "problem" is that with women in the past I've always really enjoyed doing it doggy-style; I find it a totally visual/animal turn-on, and of course, there's the physical pleasure of the position itself.

My problem is that my wife and I have never been able to get into the position because of our "configuration" or body type combination (I'm tall, she's short), and though it doesn't bother her I definitely miss being able to do it that way. I wonder if other couples have this problem and if you have any suggestions.

LOVE, MISMATCHED

DEAR MIS

Yes they do (of course!) and yes I do (like-wise). Size-discordant couples are common enough—just look around you—that people make products for precisely this problem. Do your part for the economy and go buy something.

I don't know what happened to the people who made me accept samples of the quite nicely made but incredibly bulky foam wedges and blocks (I live in an apartment and they were about the size of my entire closet) meant to enhance

one's sex life by better aligning tab A with slot B, but there are other such products out there. I could never really get into the set I had, anyway, after we used them to prop up a massively wounded leg we happened to have in the family at the time, so I gave them away.

A search on "sex pillows" or "sex position pillows" brings up a number of products—and some of them are inflatable, which would solve the storage problem. Most are advertised by draping a pneumatic blonde upside down over the product so her hair responds to gravity but her breasts do not, but that can't be helped. Well, it can, actually: the other place to get wedges, blocks and bolsters meant to prop up body parts at particular angles is the medical supply warehouse, which is depressing in quite a different way. Your call.

Either source should get you something you can work with. Good doggie! I mean, good luck.
LOVE. ANDREA

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers needed to teach English to adult immigrants. Daytime, weekdays,or evenings for 2-3 hrs/session, approx. 1-2 times a week. Call Judy 424-3545. ext. 249.

Teach an adult to read and write. We are always looking for tutors in your area. The Contro for Family Literacy 421-7323, www.famlit.ca.

CMIB is looking for volunteers with vision, dults (50+) to help seniors with vision loss. For more info call Catherine 453-8304.

Voluntaers needed to teach conversational ESL to adult Immigrants at various library locations, 1-2 days/week, 10-12pm or 1-3pm (dep. on location) No exp. req. Call Judy 424-3545 ext. 249.

Brain Necrobiology Research Program at UofA seeks individuals who have recently delivered and are suffering from POSTPARTUAL DEPRESSION for esearch study Call 407-3305. Reimbursement provided.

stadios with the Brain Neurobiology Research Program at UniA. Call 407-3775 or 407-3221.

Volunteer Drivers needed for the Seniors Volunteer Driving Centre, 2-3 hrs Mon-Fri. Ph Anna 732-1221.

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Love Binge? Volunteer for the Association of Adult Day Support Programs. Bingo volunteers needed to help raise funds. Ph. 434-4747, ext. 4.

DO YOU HAVE MODERATE ASTHMA? You may be eligible to take part in a study examining the effects of fragrances on asthma. 435-9028 x 230/jevans@tox-con.com.

Help to broadcast news for blind and printrestricted Edmontonians. Email: edmonton@voiceprintcanada.com, or call 451-8331.

Volunteer at Adult Day Support Program: The Association of Adult Day Support Programs (AADSP) assists seniors to remain independent and active. Shauna Beauchesne, 434-4747, ext. 4.

Volunteer needed to help with telephone calls and some filing. 1-2 days/week. Flexible hours. No exp. req. Must have pleasant phone voice and mannerisms. Call Judy 424-3545 ext. 249.

Overwhelmed? In a tough spot? Talk to as! No-Fee Walk-In counselling 482-INFO (4636) The Support Network, www.thesupportnetwork.com

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton needs volunteers to take calls on our 24-hour Crisis line. For information ph 423-4102.

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Cassandra: Hot Hungarian brunette; 36C-26-36;

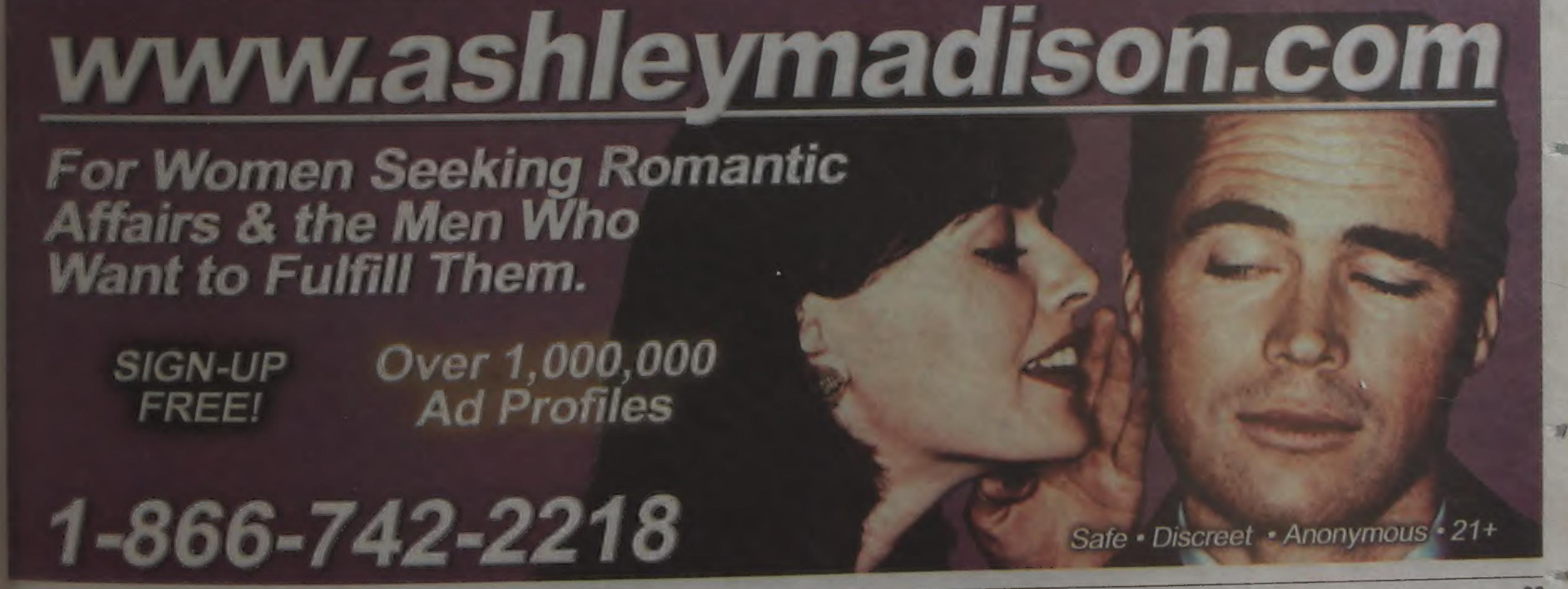
Amber: Outgoing redhead; just 18; brand new to the industry, 348-26-32; very open minded; call for availability; 441-1330.

Christy: Sexy hot Italian w/jet black hair; very busty; 23; ask her about special; call for availability; 441-1330.

Mac-Ling: 20 yr old Asian; great body; loves to pamper; no rush service; a delicate oriental gem; call for availability; 965-4968.







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